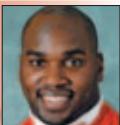


Nearly 3,700 sailors promoted to chief petty officer
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— PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME —
**Despite tragically shortened career,
Derrick Thomas left his mark** Back page



Officials looking at several locations for Gitmo trials
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KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY VIA KOREA NEWS SERVICE/AP

Former President Bill Clinton, right, meets with North Korean Leader Kim Jong Il, left, on Tuesday in Pyongyang, North Korea. Clinton and Kim held wide-ranging talks during the unannounced visit, according to North Korean state-run media.

N. Korea pardons U.S. journalists

Clinton visits Pyongyang, asks Kim to release women

BY JEAN H. LEE
The Associated Press

SEOUL — North Korean leader Kim Jong Il issued a "special pardon" for two jailed American journalists and ordered their release at former President Bill Clinton's request, North Korean media reported Wednesday.

The move to free reporters Laura Ling and Euna Lee reflected North Korea's "humanitarian and peaceloving policy," the Korean Central News Agency said in a dispatch from Pyongyang early Wednesday.

The official Korean Central News Agency said Clinton's party left the country early Wednes-

day, but retracted the report two hours later. U.S. officials said they expected Clinton to wrap up the mission Wednesday morning and that he hoped to bring the two journalists with him.

Clinton landed in the North Korean capital on Tuesday on a private mission to negotiate the freedom of the two women working for former Vice President Al Gore's Current TV



Ling

media venture.

During his visit, he held rare talks with Kim — the reclusive North Korean leader's first meeting with a prominent Western figure since reportedly suffering a stroke a year ago.

Lee, 36, and Ling, 32, were arrested in March after crossing into North Korea from China, where they had been reporting



Lee

on North Korean defectors.

They were sentenced to 12 years of hard labor for illegal entry and engaging in "hostile acts."

Washington had pushed for their release, with Clinton's wife, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton, requesting last month that they be granted amnesty. She described the women as remorseful, and expressed their families' anguish.

Lee, a South Korean-born U.S. citizen, is married and has a 4-year-old daughter in Los Angeles. A native Californian, Ling is the married younger sister of TV journalist Lisa Ling.

SEE CLINTON ON PAGE 2

Obama:
Treating
PTSD a
'multi-year
project'

BY LEO SHANE III
Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — As thousands of troops bearing mental scars stream back from fighting two major wars, President Barack Obama acknowledged Tuesday that it will take years before Veterans Affairs officials are fully ready to address their complex emotional issues.

In a White House roundtable with Stars and Stripes and other military reporters, Obama and VA Secretary Eric Shinseki said they are focused on the issues of stress and suicide among returning troops, and have committed millions in new funding to dealing with problems like post-traumatic stress disorder.

"Throwing money at the problem by itself is not enough, but money helps," Obama said. "I do think there's been a sea change in attitudes around stress disorders since the Vietnam era. I think both [the Department of Defense] and the VA take the issue of PTSD very seriously."

But the president also conceded that it will be "a multi-year project" that depends on additional research into the disorders, a drop in deployment tempo among active-duty troops, and eliminating the stigma of seeking help for mental health issues.

Last month, a VA report showed that more than one-third of troops returning from Iraq and Afghanistan using the veterans' health system have been diagnosed with a mental health disorder, nearly double the rate from the last time the study was done in 2004.

Earlier this year, Obama pledged \$25 billion in new VA funding over the next five years to deal with emerging veterans issues like PTSD and traumatic brain injuries, a move the president called one of his biggest successes in office.

"The key now is implementation, execution," he said. "Making sure there is a culture within the VA that is consumer friendly, that is oriented not towards keeping people out, but getting them the services they need."

SEE VETERANS ON PAGE 3

QUOTE OF THE DAY

**"I am not afraid of flogging.
... It's not about flogging.
It's not about my innocence.
It's about changing the law."**

— Lubna Hussein, who chose to be tried in court after being arrested for wearing pants in Khartoum, Sudan

See story on Page 5

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Iraq moves to restrict Internet

Ban considered on sites with pornography, security threats

BY SINAN SALAHEDDIN
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — The Iraqi government has decided to crack down on Internet service providers and ban sites that incite violence or carry pornography, officials said Tuesday, a move that has been strongly criticized by freedom of speech advocates as a dangerous first step toward political censorship.

The plan to strengthen government control of content and usage will require Internet cafes — and later the service providers as well — to obtain licenses that are subject to government review

and cancellation if compliance requirements are not met.

"All Web sites that glorify terrorism and incite violence and sectarianism or those that violate social morals with content such as pornography will be banned," communications ministry spokesman Sameer al-Hasoon told The Associated Press by phone Tuesday.

Al-Hasoon refused to divulge further details of the committee's recommendations but said he expected them to be approved by the Cabinet next week. The next step would be for the government to send the draft legislation to parliament.

Another official said the ministry is planning to license five of the 10 wireless Internet service providers currently operating in Iraq. He refused to say why the five were chosen, but said the tightened restrictions will be implemented in coordination with the Interior Ministry's anti-Internet crimes directorate.

The plan to tighten government controls has raised concerns about the protection of constitutional freedoms.

The Baghdad-based independent Journalistic Freedom Observatory denounced the step and claimed the plan violates the Iraqi constitution, which guarantees

the freedom of mail, telegrams, phone and electronic communications. The constitution, enacted in 2005, says such communications cannot be "monitored, tabbed or revealed."

The group said the plan opens the door for tighter controls, particularly over political discussions, dissent or debate on issues that are sensitive to the government.

It says the controls are a throw-back to the days of Saddam, when access to the Internet was limited to just one provider and e-mail and phone calls were monitored and censored by the Ministry of Communications and security agencies.

Clinton: N. Korea gives ex-president grand welcome

CLINTON, FROM PAGE 1

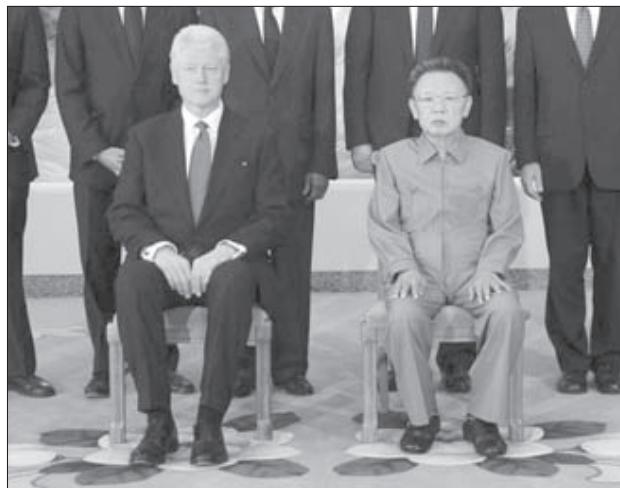
State media said Clinton offered Kim "words of sincere apology" for the women's transgressions, and "courteously" conveyed President Barack Obama's gratitude for North Korea's leniency, KCNA said.

White House spokesman Robert Gibbs, however, denied Clinton went with a message from Obama. "That's not true," he told reporters in Washington.

Clinton's landmark visit, which was not announced in advance by North Korea or the U.S., comes at a time of heightened tensions between Washington and Pyongyang, foes during the Korean War of the 1950s, over the regime's nuclear program.

North Korea in recent months has conducted a nuclear test and test-fired an array of ballistic missiles in violation of U.N. Security Council resolutions, with Washington leading the push to punish Pyongyang for its defiance.

It's only the second visit to Pyongyang by a former U.S. leader. Jimmy Carter traveled to North Korea for talks with Kim's father, Kim Il Sung, in 1994 in a groundbreaking meeting during



KOREAN CENTRAL NEWS AGENCY VIA KOREA NEWS SERVICE/AP
Former President Bill Clinton, left, poses with North Korean leader Kim Jong Il on Tuesday in Pyongyang.

a time of similar tensions.

Though Clinton was in North Korea on a private basis, his visit was treated by North Korea as a high-profile visit, with senior officials — including Kim Kyu Gwan,

the vice foreign minister who serves as the country's chief nuclear negotiator — meeting him on the tarmac.

Footage from the APTN television news agency showed the ar-

riving Clinton exchanging warm handshakes with the officials and accepting a bouquet of flowers from a schoolgirl.

Clinton later hosted a banquet for Clinton at the state guesthouse, Radio Pyongyang and the Korean Central Broadcasting Station reported.

The decision to send the former president was kept quiet.

"While this solely private mission to secure the release of two Americans is on the ground, we will have no comment," Gibbs, the White House spokesman, said in a statement from Washington. "We do not want to jeopardize the success of former President Clinton's mission."

A Ling family friend in Sacramento, Marcus Marquez, said he was looking forward to seeing the women back in California.

He said family members had been keeping their hopes up and were heartened by vigils held on the journalists' behalf in San Francisco, Sacramento, Washington and other cities.

"I'm pretty sure they are not going to be fully relieved until they're in their arms," said Marquez.



TUCKER M. YATES/Courtesy of the U.S. Navy

Personnel Specialist 1st Class Gladys Willis celebrates after being chosen as a chief petty officer selectee during the Navy League of the United States, Seattle Council, Sailor of the Year luncheon.

Navy promotes 3,700 sailors

Advancement through ranks getting more competitive, Navy says

BY LISA M. NOVAK
Stars and Stripes

NAPLES, Italy — Nearly 3,700 sailors will pin on the chief petty officer rank next month, according to a Navywide message, fewer than 20 percent of eligible candidates.

Advancement to senior enlisted leadership positions is becoming more competitive and is at its lowest in about a decade, Navy spokeswoman Lt. Candice Tresch said last month.

"Now that the Navy has entered a period of stabilizing the force, we are closely monitoring the number of billets and advancement opportunity to ensure a balanced force in terms of skills, seniority and experience and to align advancement rates with the number of available billets," she said.

Sailors in career specialties such as explosive ordnance disposal, electronics technicians specializing in submarine navigation equipment and machinists mates who maintain weapons systems fared the best — with advancement rates between 50 percent and 60 percent of those eligible for promotion, according to the Navy's Bureau of Personnel.

To view the complete list of those selected for advancement to chief petty officer, go to www.npc.navy.mil/NR/rdonlyres/221467C8-6095-4E81-A7AE-03989CC6447E/0/NAV09230.txt

On the other end of the spectrum were machinery repairmen and cryptologic technicians. Only one percent of all eligible maintenance crypto-techs were on the annual chiefs list, while no machinery repairmen made the cut.

The primary reason for the disparity in promotion rates can be attributed to the number of vacancies in each career field. If there was only one vacant E-7 slot in the EOD field, for example, then only one E-6 could be promoted.

Of the 19,000 petty officers first class who were eligible, just 19 percent will be promoted to chief in fiscal 2010, a small drop from the current fiscal year.

Since 2004, the Navy has reduced the size of its force, including a 10 percent reduction in E-7 (chief petty officer) billets, Tresch said.

Following the announcement, those eligible for promotion begin a six-week training period,

which includes classroom instruction, naval history, physical fitness training and leadership mentoring. At the end of the six weeks, all 3,700 sailors will be "frocked," meaning their pay will increase at various times throughout the year, but all will be considered equal in seniority.

The jump from E-6 to E-7 represents one of the biggest career milestones in the military. Unlike other branches of the service, those who make it to the Navy's senior enlisted ranks immediately begin a training regimen to prepare them for a new set of leadership roles, a new peer group, new expectations and even a new uniform.

"As a junior sailor, wet behind the ears, I saw that the chiefs ran the Navy," said Chief Petty Officer Vince Griego, who was promoted to chief in 2003 and is currently based in Naples. "Any time you had a question, you went to the chief. I wanted to be that guy."

"The chiefs are successful because they work together. It's not about individuals; it's about having a successful team that networks and looks out for each other," Griego said.

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Veterans: VA, DOD seek more study of traumas

VETERANS, FROM PAGE 1

Shinseki noted that the VA employs more than 18,000 counselors, including new employees at suicide hot lines and mental health outreach programs.

"We know if we get them into treatment, they get better," Shinseki said. "We also know if we don't get them into treatment, it doesn't get better, and more often it becomes debilitating."

Shinseki said along with improving services, he has emphasized the need for better research into stress disorders: identifying why some individuals succumb to combat stress while others walk away relatively unscathed.

"There's something here that we don't understand," he said. "Is it personal makeup, resilience, how kids were raised, whatever?"

"Unlocking that door for both DOD and VA will be important, because it will help us understand how we can teach resilience."

Still, the president said he's confident that Shinseki's VA is taking a new and better approach to the challenge.

"Both the VA and DOD understand these very human issues are dealt with in the most thoughtful and effective way possible," Obama said. "We're putting time and energy behind it. I'm focused on it personally. But it's going to take some time."

E-mail Leo Shane at: shane@stripes.osd.mil



LEO SHANE III/Stars and Stripes

President Barack Obama and VA Secretary Eric Shinseki unveil plans for improving medical records and advance funding for VA health programs at an April event.

DODDS-Pacific student activities budget looks solid, outgoing director says

BY DAVE ORNAUER
Stars and Stripes

TORII STATION, Okinawa — In uncertain financial times, often student activities will feel the pinch.

Twice in the 1980s, co-curricular activities underwent the budget knife at Department of Defense Dependents Schools.

But now, as the DOD is taking a close look at expenditures across the board, former DODDS-Pacific Director Nancy Bressell, in an interview before departing the region for the same job in Europe, said she believes funding for student activities for the coming school year in the Pacific is on good footing.

"I can tell you, [activities] are pretty high up there as far as the use of disre-

tionary funds are concerned," she said Saturday.

DODDS-Pacific budgeted \$2.3 million, about 3 percent of total expenditures minus payroll, for Far East student activities in school year 2008-09, for 22 total activities involving about 2,200 students, according to DODDS-Pacific spokesman Charly Hoff. DODDS projects that level "will be about the same" in school year 2009-10.

Student activities include Far East-wide tournaments in six sports, plus activi-

ties such as Model United Nations, Junior ROTC, journalism, drama and music.

Bressell said Department of Defense Education Activity Director Shirley Miles has "made it very clear that student activities are an important part of the total DODEA educational picture and really the heartbeat of our schools."

Bressell is taking her 34 years of experience with DODEA and DODDS to Europe as regional director. She's swapping spots with DODDS-Europe Director Diana Ohman, who's held that post since 1999.

Bressell got her start with DODDS in 1976 as a learning disabilities teacher in Germany. She became DODDS-Pacific director in December 2001.

One of the obstacles she said she had to overcome, especially in her early days in

the Pacific, was the "but-we've-always-done-it-this-way" school of thought, particularly in athletics.

She established the Far East-wide football playoffs in 2005. Next, she unified boys and girls basketball seasons in winter and soccer in spring. Previously girls basketball was played in spring and soccer in winter, with Korean teams playing on frozen turf in cold wind chills.

She said the Pacific will be getting a solid director in Ohman, whom Bressell has worked with for four years in the past.

"An experienced educator, an experienced leader, such a strong leader," Bressell said. "Diana listens to people, then makes really solid decisions."

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: ornauerd@stripes.osd.mil



Bressell

Odierno: Too soon for U.S. to pull out

BY KIM GAMEL
The Associated Press

RAMADI, Iraq — The top U.S. general in Iraq said Tuesday that he disagrees with a colonel's memo urging an early troop withdrawal although the security situation is better than expected since American forces turned over security in urban centers to the Iraqis more than a month ago.

Gen. Ray Odierno, the first senior American official to comment on the memo, told The Associated Press the Americans need to stay the course in Iraq.

The Iraqi security forces face corruption and other problems but "overall it's gone very, very well," he said. But, he added, the Americans are still needed to protect security gains.

"Our goal here, given us by the president, is a secure, stable, sovereign, self-reliant Iraq. We're not there yet," he said in an interview at a U.S. base after meeting

"Our goal here, given us by the president, is a secure, stable, sovereign, self-reliant Iraq. We're not there yet."

Gen. Ray Odierno
Commander of U.S. forces in Iraq



with Iraqi officials in the Anbar provincial capital of Ramadi.

Col. Timothy R. Reese, a U.S. Army adviser to the Iraqi military in Baghdad, wrote in his memo that the years-long American effort to train, equip and advise Iraqi security forces has reached a point of rapidly diminishing returns and the U.S. should go home next year, 16 months ahead of schedule.

Reese also wrote that Iraqi forces already are good enough to defend the government against

the weakened terrorist and insurgent forces that remain active.

Odierno warned the security gains are fragile, saying the No. 1 threat was Kurdish-Arab tensions that could stoke violence in northern Iraq.

The Americans have pinned their hopes on national parliamentary elections scheduled for January to give the national reconciliation process a jumpstart by empowering disaffected groups.

Odierno said that would be the next benchmark.

"What we have to be able to do is to make sure that we reduce tensions so that they can solve this politically," he said. "It's important that we're here to make sure that we have legitimate credible parliamentary elections."

Reese argued for ending the U.S. military mission in Iraq in August 2010. That is the date when Obama has said all combat troops will have withdrawn, leaving behind a residual force of 35,000-50,000 troops to train and advise the Iraqi security forces until a final pullout by the end of 2011.

There are now 130,000 U.S. forces in Iraq.

"We want to continue to build the institutional capacity of Iraq to move it towards a stable country and we want to make them a long-term partner that would help us to, in my mind, help overall with the security situation in the Middle East. That's what our goals are," Odierno said.

Taliban rockets target Kabul

BY FISNIK ABRASHI
The Associated Press

KABUL — Taliban militants unleashed a wave of rockets at Kabul's international airport and government buildings Tuesday in an apparent attempt to shatter the sense of security in the Afghan capital less than three weeks before presidential elections.

The rockets missed their targets, wounding a girl and a man with flying glass, but a Taliban spokesman said the group would soon launch more attacks in Kabul, which has been largely spared the violence roiling the south and east of the country.

President Hamid Karzai made a rare campaign appearance in the heavily Pashtun east to appeal for votes from the ethnic group that provides most of the support for the insurgents. He told a crowd of several thousands in Gardez, the capital of Paktia province, that Western forces must release suspected Taliban supporters and fighters held without charge for months and even years.

The U.S. military holds some 600 prisoners at a detention center at Bagram Air Base outside Kabul as "unlawful enemy combatants" denied the right to legal representation. Their status is a growing source of tension between the U.S. and Karzai, who has been increasingly criticizing American forces for the detentions, along with raids on homes and airstrikes that kill civilians.

Karzai issued one of his strongest demands yet for the mostly Pashtun detainees' freedom.

"The Afghan people are happy because you have paved roads, built schools, and the salaries of the government are paid by the international community and United States," he told the crowd in a field before a mosque. "But we want all our prisoners to be released. We need dignity in our houses and dignity for our women."

Karzai, who has made few campaign appearances, was once highly popular inside and outside Afghanistan but has lost luster in recent years amid endemic government corruption, a huge narcotics industry and the unyielding violence.

He called for the Taliban to negotiate with the government and participate in the election but said the two sides remained too far apart for talks to be successful.

The president condemned a suicide attack Tuesday in Zabul province, where a bomber detonated his explosive vest besides a vehicle carrying Afghan security agents, killing one agent and four civilians. Eighteen people were wounded, police said.

Karzai did not mention the attack launched on Kabul at dawn from a largely unpopulated section of Deh Sabz, an area about five miles northeast of the city.

A good day to play



Children play at an amusement park in Basra, Iraq's second-largest city, about 340 miles southeast of Baghdad.

Al-Maliki keeping allies, foes guessing

BY ANTHONY SHADID
The Washington Post

BAGHDAD — With a raid this week on a camp of Iranian dissidents once sheltered by the United States, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki has again demonstrated a knack for surprising both foes and allies in his attempt to emerge as the victor in crucial parliamentary elections in January.

So far, he has ordered attacks on militiamen in Basra against the advice of the U.S. military, turned the June 30 deadline for U.S. troop withdrawal from Iraqi cities into an orchestrated celebration of Iraqi independence and rigorously tried to conceal the U.S. presence that remains, fearful that Iraqis will see the withdrawal as a charade.

Al-Maliki's government had for months contemplated a move against the Iranian exiles, who are members of a group called

the Mujaheddin-e Khalq, promising the U.S. government that it would treat the more than 3,000 camp residents humanely and not force any of them to return to Iran.

But the raid Tuesday caught U.S. — and some Iraqi officials — by surprise.

Taken together, the moves demonstrate an eagerness

on al-Maliki's part to create an image of himself as an independent leader in a country that hosts 130,000 U.S. troops.

"He wants to turn himself into a national symbol, and he is willing to use power and force to promote himself as one," said Salim Abdul-

Iah, a Sunni lawmaker and part of a bloc in parliament that has opposed al-Maliki in the past.

Al-Maliki faces an array of challenges as he heads toward elections in January that will choose a parliament and eventually lead to a new cabinet and prime minister.

Violence remains a feature of the landscape here, threatening to undo what al-Maliki has touted as his greatest accomplishment: a restoration of a semblance of calm in Baghdad and other war-torn towns and cities.

On Friday, car bombings near five Shiite mosques in Baghdad killed at least 29 people, underscoring insurgents' continued ability to strike at the heart of the fortified capital.

Since the spring, al-Maliki has courted Sunni leaders, including Saleh al-Mutlak, who counts former Baathists among his constituency, and Ahmed Abu Risha,

probably the most powerful tribal sheik in Anbar. Abu Risha has said he will ally with al-Maliki.

Al-Maliki seems to be playing an aggressive game with the Americans, as well. No one missed the fact that the raid on the camp began as Defense Secretary Robert Gates arrived in Iraq — either a sign of poor planning on al-Maliki's part or disregard for the U.S. reaction.

Still, there remains a sense in Iraq at least that the Americans would like to see al-Maliki consolidate control as the most expedient way to ensure stability while most U.S. combat troops pull out of Iraq by August 2010.

"I think they're turning the keys over. And that's unfortunate," said an Iraqi official who has been critical of al-Maliki. "Turning the keys over means that we're creating another strongman in Iraq, and that's just bad for Iraq."



Al-Maliki

IN THE WORLD

Sudanese police beat protesters at dress code trial

BY MOHAMED OSMAN
The Associated Press

KHARTOUM, Sudan — Sudanese police fired tear gas and beat women protesting outside a Sudanese court Tuesday during the trial of a female journalist accused of violating the Islamic dress code by wearing trousers in public.

Police moved in swiftly and dispersed about 50 protesters, mostly women, who were supporting Lubna Hussein, a former U.N. worker facing 40 lashes on the charge of "indecent dressing." Some of the women demonstrators wore trousers in solidarity with Hussein while others wore more traditional dress.

Trousers are considered indecent under the strict interpretation of Islamic law, adopted by Sudan's Islamic regime which came to power after a coup led by President Omar al-Bashir in 1989. But activists and lawyers

say the implementation of the law is arbitrary.

Hussein was among 13 women arrested July 3 in a raid by the public order police on a popular cafe in Khartoum. Ten of the women were flogged at a police station two days later and fined 250 Sudanese pounds, or about \$120.

But Hussein and two others decided to go on trial. She has sought to publicize her case internationally, inviting human rights workers, Western diplomats and fellow journalists to witness her trial.

"I am not afraid of flogging. ... It's not about flogging. It's not about my innocence. It's about changing the law," Hussein said after the hearing Tuesday.

She said she would take the issue all the way to Sudan's constitutional court if necessary, but that if the court rules against her and orders the flogging, she was



ABD RAOUF/AP

Sudanese activists march Tuesday in support of Lubna Hussein outside a Khartoum court where Hussein is being tried for wearing trousers in public, a violation of the country's strict Islamic laws. The Arabic sign at right reads "Lubna case, is all-women case."

ready "to receive [even] 40,000 lashes."

Hussein wore the same clothes Tuesday she wore when arrested, including the dark-colored pants that authorities found offensive. Although she was required to wear the same outfit to court so the judge and others could see the clothing, Hussein said she's been wearing it every day to highlight her case.

In the clashes outside the courtroom, witnesses said police wielding batons beat up one of Hussein's lawyers, Manal Awad

Khogali, while keeping media and cameras at bay. No injuries were immediately reported.

"We are here to protest against this law that oppresses women and debases them," said one of the protesters, Amal Habani, a female columnist for the daily Ajraas Al Hurria, which translates to Bells of Freedom in Arabic.

While the police broke up the demonstration outside the Khartoum Criminal Court, the judge adjourned Hussein's trial for a month to seek clarification from

Sudan's foreign ministry.

At the time of her arrest, Hussein was working for the media department of the U.N. Mission in Sudan, which gives her immunity from prosecution. She submitted her resignation after her trial began last week because she wanted to go on trial to challenge the dress code law.

Defense lawyer Jalal al-Sayed told reporters Tuesday the judge wanted to know whether Hussein still has immunity because her superiors have not yet accepted the resignation.



SHANEBAUER.COM/AP

Shane Bauer, whose Web site is shown above, is one of three Americans believed held by Iranian authorities after apparently illegally crossing the border Friday from Iraq.

Iran lawmaker says detained American hikers are spies

The Associated Press

TEHRAN, Iran — Iran has arrested three Americans who strayed across the border from Iraq on allegations they illegally entered the country, and a lawmaker said Tuesday that authorities are deciding whether they will be accused of spying.

Officials in northern Iraq's Kurdish region said Sunday that the three — Shane Bauer, Sarah Shourd and Joshua Fattal — were tourists who inadvertently crossed into Iran on July 31 while hiking in the region. Friends and family say the three were adventurous travelers who accidentally stumbled into the wrong place at the wrong time.

Their arrest and Iran's accusations could spark a new standoff with the U.S. at a time when Iran is mired in its worst political crisis in decades over the disputed June 12 presidential election. Earlier this year, the two countries faced off over American-Iranian journalist Roxana Saberi, who was held for more than three months and accused of spying.

Lawmaker Mohammad Karim Abadi, who heads the Iranian parliament's National Security Committee, said on state-run Arabic television Al-Alam that he believed the three came as spies but authorities are still deciding whether there is proof to bring legal action against them.

Attack on Christians in Pakistan a planned act, rights panel says

The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD — An independent Pakistani human rights commission said Tuesday that rioting that killed eight Christians last week was not spontaneous but was planned by the attackers, some of whom belong to an al-Qaida-linked group.

The findings were released the same day Pakistani police began questioning more than 200 people to determine if the attacks were premeditated, said Punjab province Law Minister Rana Sanaullah. Another top official said militants fleeing an army offensive in the northwest Swat Valley were also involved.

Hundreds of Muslims attacked a Christian neighborhood in the eastern Pakistani city of Gojra on Saturday after reports that Christians had desecrated a Quran. The assault, which torched dozens of homes, underscored the precarious existence of religious minorities in this Muslim-majority nation.

Sanaullah said members of the banned Sunni group Sipah-e-Sahaba Pakistan and its al-Qaida-linked offshoot, Lashkar-e-Jhangvi, were arrested as suspected attackers.

The Human Rights Commission of Pakistan said its fact-find-

ing team interviewed the families of victims, residents, witnesses and officials. Commission head Asma Jahangir said announcements made from mosques the day before called upon Muslims to "make mincemeat of the Christians."

The statement said many of the attackers came from a neighboring district, Jhang — the birthplace and stronghold of the banned militant groups.

"The attackers seemed to be trained for carrying out such ac-



PERVEZ MASIH/AP

Pakistani girls from a Christian community tie black bands on each other during a special service Tuesday in Hyderabad for eight members of the community killed in a weekend riot.

ties," she said.

Christians in the community attended special church services for the victims Tuesday.

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Australia police uncover terror plot, arrest four

By DAVID CROSLING
The Associated Press

MELBOURNE, Australia—Australian police said Tuesday they thwarted a terrorist plot in which extremists with ties to an al-Qaida-linked Somali Islamist group planned to invade a military base and open fire with automatic weapons until they were shot dead themselves.

Some 400 officers from state and national security services took part in 19 raids on properties in Melbourne, Australia's second largest city, before dawn Tuesday, arresting four men and detaining several others for questioning, police said.

Australian Federal Police Acting Commissioner Tony Negus said the raids followed a seven-month surveillance operation of a group of people with alleged ties to al-Shabaab, an Islamist organization fighting to overthrow Somalia's Western-backed transitional government.

"Police will allege that the men were planning to carry out a suicide terrorist attack on

a defense establishment within Australia involving an armed assault with automatic weapons," Negus said. "Details of the planning indicated the alleged offenders were prepared to inflict a sustained attack on military personnel until they themselves were killed," he said.

Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said the plot underscored that Australia is still under threat from extremist groups enraged that the country sent troops to join the U.S.-led military campaigns in Afghanistan and Iraq.

"There is an enduring threat from terrorism at home here in Australia as well as overseas," Rudd said in Cairns. "This is a sober reminder that the threat of terrorism to Australia continues."

The Somali-linked plot is the second major coordinated attack plan exposed in Australia in recent years. Seven men were imprisoned in the past year for involvement in a nascent plot to target thousands of spectators in an attack on major sporting events

in Australia.

Holsworthy Barracks on the outskirts of Sydney was one of the group's potential targets, and surveillance had been carried out at other bases, Negus said, adding that some of the suspects had traveled to Somalia "to participate in hostilities" there.

All four arrested are Australian citizens of Somali or Lebanese descent aged between 22 and 26, police said.

Federal police agent David Kinton told the court that police evidence included intercepted phone calls and text messages between the suspects. The Age newspaper reported on its Web site that one of the messages referred to the Holsworthy base, saying: "I stalked around. It is easy to enter."

Negus said authorities decided to move against the group after carefully weighing up how advanced their plan was.

He said the group was actively seeking a fatwa, or Islamic religious ruling, approving their plans for the Australian attack.

In Japan, robot suits give some a leg up



SHIZUO KAMBAYASHI/AP

Cyberdyne Inc. employees Fumi Takeuchi, left, and Takatoshi Kuno walk across a Tokyo street Monday wearing HAL robot suits during a promotion of the 22-pound system. HAL, short for "hybrid assistive limb," helps the injured and weak to walk. The robot suit can be rented in Japan for \$2,200 a month — a rare case of such technology becoming a viable commercial product.

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IN THE STATES

White House cybersecurity aide resigns

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The White House's senior aide on cybersecurity has decided to resign following delays in the appointment of a coordinator to spearhead the government's efforts to protect the nation's computer networks.

Melissa Hathaway, who also served as a cybersecurity aide during the Bush administration, had been a contender for the position of cybersecurity coordinator. In an interview Monday, she said she had withdrawn her application.

"I wasn't willing to continue to wait any longer, because I'm not empowered right now to continue to drive the change," she said. "I've concluded that I can do more now from a different role," most likely in the private sector.

Hathaway noted that it has been two months since President Barack Obama made a highly acclaimed speech on the importance of cybersecurity and pledged to personally select a coordinator.

A colleague close to Hathaway said she had become dismayed by the delay in the appointment. The colleague said Hathaway had "the sense that this was very political, that she has been too closely tied to the Bush administration."

Recordings of terror suspect are played

RALEIGH, N.C. — Federal authorities say the accused ring-leader of a group of North Carolina terrorism suspects talked of loving jihad, fighting for Allah and despising a U.S. military presence at Muslim holy sites.

During a detention hearing Tuesday, officials said Daniel Boyd told his family in June that "Muslims must be protected at all costs."

Federal officials played recordings of the 39-year-old Boyd talking to his family and a witness.

FBI Special Agent Michael Sutton said Boyd wanted the men, including two of his sons, to engage in violent jihad, train on firearms and travel overseas.

The seven men were charged last week with plotting attacks in a foreign country, and an eighth is being sought. Officials have not named their alleged targets or said the men were successful at carrying out any schemes.

From The Associated Press

Options weighed for trying detainees

BY DEVLIN BARRETT

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Obama administration is eyeing two very different kinds of places for putting Guantanamo Bay detainees on trial: big-city courtrooms in the nation's capital, New York and Virginia — or a one-of-a-kind superjail in the Midwest.

Dozens of Guantanamo Bay detainee cases have been referred to federal prosecutors for possible criminal trials in those Eastern Seaboard locations, officials told The Associated Press on Monday as the Justice Department, Pentagon and national security officials also weigh whether to hold virtually all Guantanamo-related civilian and military trials at a prison in Michigan or Kansas.

The administration could decide that rather than bring the detainees to trial in a number of cities, it will instead bring prosecutors and judges with terrorism experience to one site in the Midwest for trial.

The politically volatile decisions about where and how to try Guantanamo Bay detainees ultimately will rest with President Barack Obama as he tries to meet his self-imposed January dead-



AP

President Barack Obama signs a series of executive orders, including one closing the prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in the Oval Office of the White House on Jan. 22. The Obama administration is looking to create a courtroom-within-a-prison complex in the U.S. to house suspected terrorists, combining military and civilian detention facilities at a single maximum-security prison.

line for closing the prison on the military base in Cuba.

Obama administration officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Attorney General Eric Holder met privately last week with the chief federal prosecutors in four East Coast districts to discuss the preparations for possible indictments and trials.

Justice Department spokesman Matthew Miller said the Guantanamo Bay detainee task

force "has referred a significant number of cases for possible prosecution, and those cases have now been sent to U.S. Attorney offices who are reviewing them with prosecutors from the Office of Military Commissions."

One official said prosecutors and military lawyers are now working together to review the individual cases. The work is aimed at indicting individuals in civilian courts, but final decisions have

not been made on the cases and some of the inmates could still end up before military commissions instead.

Officials said the districts reviewing Guantanamo cases are: Washington; the Eastern District of Virginia, which has a courthouse in Alexandria; the Southern District of New York, which is based in lower Manhattan; and the Eastern District of New York, which is based in Brooklyn.

The administration is also considering relocating the whole Guantanamo trial process to a more remote location. Several senior administration officials said they are considering a soon-to-be-shuttered state maximum security prison in Michigan and the military penitentiary at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., as possible locations for a heavily guarded site to hold the suspected 229 al-Qaida, Taliban and foreign fighters now jailed at Guantanamo.

Rep. Peter Hoekstra, R-Mich., the senior Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, vowed to oppose any attempt to bring Guantanamo prisoners to Michigan.

On the other hand, workers at the Standish Maximum Security Prison in Michigan said they would welcome detainees with open arms — to save their jobs.

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Celebrate the week with Yokosuka MWR!

Club Alliance 243-3000

Hoe Down Throw Down

August 7 at 1800 in the Ballroom on the 3rd floor

Throw on your western garb and join Club Alliance as we host a real live Country Western Hoe Down. The night kicks off with country southern sounds of recording artist Floyd Van Laningham and Gary Bernhard's Waterfront Band. We don't stop there, your taste buds will want to boot, scoot and boogie to our Country Western Buffet with all the fixin's, and then after dinner join the line dancing performance of our new professional line dancing instructor Rie Mizuno and the Chili Chics. Best dressed cowboy couple will win a month free line dancing class. Tickets can now be purchased at the cash cage. Open to all hands.

Jazz Night

Saturdays from 1700 to 2100 in Italian Gardens

Join us for Japan's best Jazz bands playing all the smooth jazzy grooves while you enjoy a delicious meal in Italian Gardens. Open to all hands! Milton and Friends performs August 8.

August Pizza of the Month: Blazin' Buffalo Chicken Pizza

Available daily in August

Our addictive Latin citrus buffalo wing sauce smothered over chicken, and flavored with a hint of ranch dressing makes this an adventure in pizza eatery. This delight is always cooked in front of you in our brick oven. Small: \$4.95 / Medium: \$10.95 / Large: \$15.95

Latin Night

Thursdays from 2000 to 2400 in Sharky's Bar

Meet other dance and Latin music enthusiasts in the area. DJ Pablo is spinning the songs that make your body shake. In the third floor ballroom, professional dance instructor, Andres, teaches you all the right moves in two classes.

R&B / Hip Hop Night & Ladies Night

Fridays from 2000 to 0200 in Sharky's Bar

Ladies! Mixed, frozen and other delicious virgin drinks are on the house from 2000 to 2300.

Rock Night

Tuesdays from 1900 to 2330 in Sharky's Bar

Hey Rockers! Immerse yourself in the sweet sounds of rock & roll!

Country & Western Night

Wednesdays from 1900 to 2330 in Sharky's Bar

Join us for some boot stomping, knee slapping, cowboy hat waving country music in Sharky's Brewery. Open to All Hands!

Club Takemiya 246-8077

9-Ball Tournament

August 8 at 2000

Compete for first, second and third place prizes. Must have minimum of six participants in the lounge to hold contest. Free

Saturday Night Jams

Saturdays from 2100 to 0200

Enjoy our DJ mixing your favorite music tonight!

Club Takemiya Family Special

Every Tuesday of every month starting in May 2009

Come on in for dinner wearing your Club Takemiya shirt, and you will receive 15% off your bill (alcoholic beverages not available for discount). Shirts are available for \$15 each.

Open Mic Karaoke Night

Thursdays from 1900 to 2300

Negishi All Hand's Club 242-4151

August: National Brownie at Brunch Month

Sundays in August from 1030 to 1330 at Negishi All Hand's Club
Try our special brownies every Sunday Brunch this month. A different recipe for each week!

Steak Night for Two

Tuesdays Nights 1700 to 2000

Two great rib eyes with all the trimmings. Only \$19.95

Pasta Buffet

Wednesday Nights from 1700 to 2000

Come out and enjoy a buffet of Italian dishes and desserts. Only \$10.95

Pizza Pizza Pizza! Eat-in or Take-Out

Get your homemade 14" pizza hot and delicious straight out of the oven! Only at Negishi All Hands' Club. Choose from Pepperoni for only \$12.95 or Cheese for only \$11.95

Mexican Platter

Fridays Nights from 1700 to 2000

Served with Spanish soup, Taco salad, fajitas, burrito, enchiladas, Spanish rice, refried beans, vegetable of day, and flour tortillas. Only \$10.95

Prime Rib Dinner

Saturdays Nights 1700 to 2000

8 oz of pure Beef Rib Eye served with salad, baked potato, vegetable of day, coffee or tea. Only \$12.95

Sunday Brunch

Sundays from 0900 to 1400

An array of breakfast foods and lunch items, large salad bar, assorted dessert bar, omelets to order and coffee, tea & juice bar. Only \$9.95

CPO Club 243-5506

National Peach Month

For the month of August

Check out our lunch buffet throughout the month to see what's great about peaches!

Breakfast

Cruise Inn Street Side Patio

Grab and go at our street side take out restaurant or relax on the patio. Cruise Inn is the breakfast spot you have been looking for, offering that fresh early morning cup of coffee, juices, breakfast sandwiches, full American breakfast and breakfast burritos to name a few. Reasonably priced lunch specials offered along with great sandwiches and burgers.

Lunch Buffet

Monday thru Friday from 1100 to 1330 in the Dining Room

Enjoy a large variety of superb food on our daily lunch buffet or call in and take out. We offer a daily Continental and Asian meal for take-out, as well as entree sized salads, sandwiches, burgers and more! \$6.95

Seafood Night

Fridays from 1700 to 2100

You've got to try our new gourmet menu items featuring an outstanding choice of seafood! For those who do not eat seafood, we have a limited menu also available.

"Puzzles" Band Live Performance

Fridays from 2030 to 0030 in Cove Bar

Party away with MWR's house band on Fridays

Champagne Brunch Buffet - Always Open to All Hands

Every Sunday from 1000 to 1330

Enjoy a fine selection of breakfast and lunch you've been missing! Omelets made to order, waffles, pancakes, steamed dumplings, roast carving, tempura udon, salads, cereals, cheeses, cold cuts. Fresh fruits, desserts, a wide variety of hot dishes, and more. Open to all hands all the time! \$11.95

Prime Rib Night

Tuesdays from 1700 to 2100

A generous 10 ounce slice of garlic roasted prime rib comes with a variety of all you can eat buffet items! \$14.95

Officers' Club 243-5030

Fourth Outdoor Social Hour

August 28 at 1630 at the Officer's Club Poolside Patio

If you missed the past Social Hour events, not to worry because we are having our fourth one due to popularity. This month's theme will be Hawaiian style food delicacies and entertainment provided by Yokosuka's own "Islands of Da Heart" group. All authorized guests welcome. For more details, please call 243-5030.

Attitude Adjustment Time

Fridays from 1900 to 2300

Enjoy delicious free Happy Hour finger food served from 1630 to 1830 and be entertained with our DJ Pablo playing your favorite music.

Prime Rib Buffet

Saturdays from 1700 to 2100

Try our Chef's Prime Rib Buffet. A la carte and kid's menu are also available. Adults \$17.95 and Kids (6 to 11 years) \$8.95

Sunday Brunch Extravaganza

Sundays from 0900 to 1330 in Kosano Dining Room

Now open to all E-7 and E-9, and their dependents. An all new and improved brunch with soothin, live entertainment. Numerous food stations such as a pasta station, waffle station, ice cream station, salad station, dessert station, hot chocolate station and even a kids' station. Please make reservations at 243-5030/5002. \$14.95 for adults, \$7.95 for eight to eleven year olds, \$5.95 for four to seven year olds and free for three years and under.

Tuesday at the Movies

Tuesdays starting at 1900 in the Kurofune Lounge

Enjoy some of the best-run movies even before they are released on DVD. Free admission and complimentary popcorn provided.

Social Hour

Wednesdays from 1900 to 2300 in the Kurofune Lounge

Unwind after a week of hard work in a relaxing atmosphere. Come and socialize with your friends. Live entertainment. Free delicious build-your-own Taco Bar from 1630 to 1830.

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FACES

Mark Wahlberg and his longtime girlfriend, model Rhea Durham, have married in Beverly Hills. People magazine reports the 38-year-old "Boogie Nights" and "Invincible" actor tied the knot Saturday in front of about a dozen friends and family at Good Shepherd Catholic Church. Wahlberg walked the aisle in a dark suit, and the 31-year-old bride wore a white strapless dress with silver embroidery. The couple have been together since 2001 and have three children. Wahlberg, executive producer of HBO's "Entourage," will appear later this year in Peter Jackson's "The Lovely Bones."

—The Philadelphia Inquirer

'Let's Make a Deal' returning

The game show "Let's Make a Deal" is coming back to daytime television. CBS says that an updated version of the show will debut

GOOD VIBRATIONS: Wahlberg swaps vows

Oct. 5, with Wayne Brady as host. The network says that the premise of audience members trying to win cash and prizes by making "wacky deals" will be intact. Monty Hall, longtime host of the original "Let's Make a Deal," is a consultant on the new show.

— The Associated Press

Familiar tune?

Ryan Tedder, who co-wrote both Beyoncé's "Halo" and Kelly Clarkson's "Already Gone," said last week he was hurt that the first "American Idol" winner blamed

him for the songs' similarities.

Clarkson told a Canadian radio station that she fought to keep "Gone" from being released after she heard B's "Halo" and noticed a resemblance. The lyrics are different — they tackle opposite ends of relationships ("Halo" = lovey-dovey; "Almost Gone" = get lost) — but the music is basically the same.

Then Tedder, the front man for pop band OneRepublic, released a statement: "They are two entirely different songs. ... I would never try to dupe an artist such as Kelly Clarkson or Beyoncé into recording

over the same musical track. The idea is both hurtful and absurd."

— Newsday

'Hamlet' heads to TV

"Doctor Who" star David Tenant is bringing his portrayal of Hamlet from the stage to the small screen. Tenant won critical acclaim for his performance in the Royal Shakespeare Company's 2008 production of "Hamlet." PBS said Sunday the TV adaptation will air in 2010.

— The Associated Press

Hot dish

Model Samantha Burke is carrying Jude Law's fourth child, her lawyer tells TMZ.

Britney Spears' ex-husband, Kevin Federline, is shooting a new reality show, People.com reports. The show, which hasn't been picked up yet, will tell the story of Federline's life as a divorced father of four.

— The Philadelphia Inquirer



Manager: Russell Crowe wasn't banned from pub

Russell Crowe's manager on Monday denied a newspaper report that the Oscar-winning Australian actor had been banned from a British pub near the set of his new film "Robin Hood."

Britain's Sunday Express newspaper reported that a spirited argument over licensing laws apparently ended with the 45-year-old actor being banned from The Brickmakers in Windlesham, Surrey.

Crowe's manager Grant Vandenberg said the newspaper story was untrue.

"The only truth to the whole thing is that he has been" to the pub, Vandenberg told Nine Network television in Australia. "He has been there four or five times with his kids. There is a playground in the back."

An unnamed duty manager at the pub told the paper: "I'm not exactly sure what he's supposed to have done, but there was apparently trouble and he's been asked not to return."

"It's not the only place he's been barred from. There are at least two others I know of" in the area, the manager added.

An unnamed local resident told the newspaper that Crowe offered money to be allowed to keep drinking at The Brickmakers after closing time.

"Eventually he left, but not before smashing a plate," the resident said.

Crowe, who won a best actor Oscar in 2001 for his starring role in "Gladiator," has two sons aged 3 and 5.

— The Associated Press

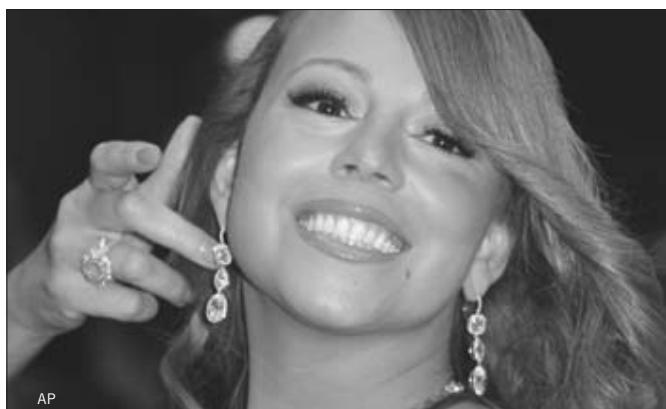
"I don't see how Ripley could be part of a prequel. I wish them well."

— Sigourney Weaver told MTV when asked if she would be in the prequel to the 1979 film "Alien," which is to be directed by Ridley Scott, according to Variety

via The Philadelphia Inquirer



MIMI VS. EM



According to The Philadelphia Inquirer, the Mariah Carey-Eminem war continues. In a new track, "The Warning," Eminem boasts about his alleged sexual history with the singer, who is married to Nick Cannon.

SHE SINGS, TOO!

Actors Jessica Biel, right, and Brian Stokes Mitchell perform during "Guys and Dolls" in concert at The Hollywood Bowl on Friday.

Biel, 27, girlfriend of Justin Timberlake, is best known for her TV role on "7th Heaven," and big-screen roles in "Stealth" and "The Illusionist."

"I haven't really done anything like this," Biel said, following a dress rehearsal Friday afternoon. "Well, I did one thing in college. ... I did a concert version of 'Tommy' when I was in college. But, other than that ..."



— The Associated Press



LUMIDEE MAKES MUSIC VIDEO IN CUBA

At top: Iranian-Swedish singer Arash Labaf, third from left, accompanied by models, is seen reflected in a mirror as he performs during the filming of a music video in Havana on Aug. 1. Labaf was making a video for his song, "Kandi," with Lumidee, right. Lumidee, 24, best-known for her summer smash of six years ago, "Never Leave You" — think "Uh Oooh, Uh Ooooh" — is of Puerto Rican descent, grew up in Spanish Harlem and holds a U.S. passport. She contributed rap solos to "Kandi."

"When I heard the shoot was in Cuba, I panicked. I didn't know what to expect, and I was a little bit scared to come," said

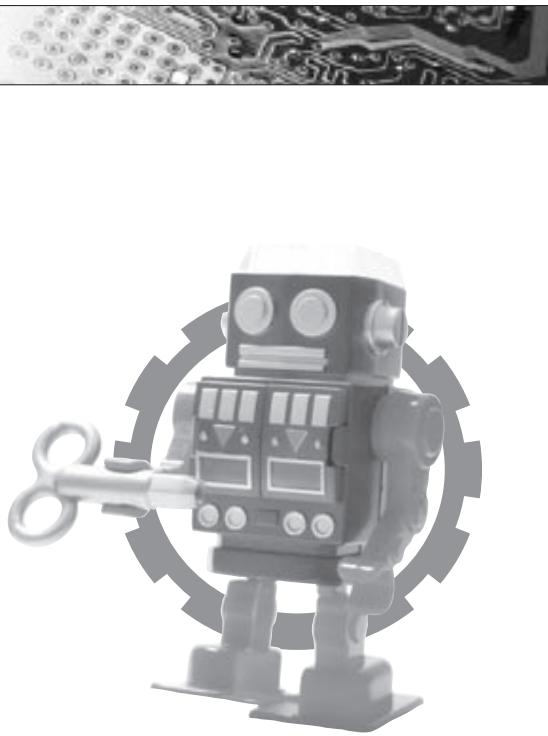
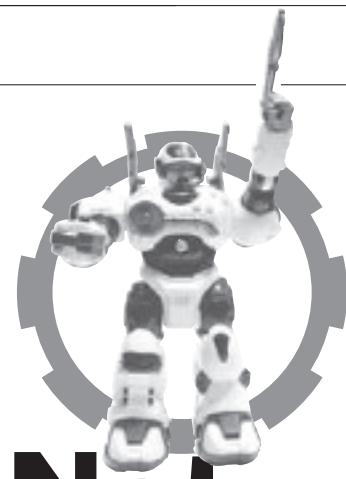


Lumidee, who was born Lumiana DeRosa Cedeno.

"You don't know how it's going to be. Like you're not wanted here, and the people would not like you," she said. "But Cubans just seem happy and laid back."

— The Associated Press

WIRED WORLD



Not a meat EATR

Web rumors of flesh-eating robot test company's PR mettle

BY GUS G. SENTEMENTES
The Baltimore Sun

Robotics expert Robert Finkelstein has had a company in the field for nearly a quarter of a century without controversy. He never paid attention to blogs, launched his company's Web site last year and never felt the need to issue news releases about his work.

That is until blogs and news sites feasted on his EATR project.

EATR, for Energetically Autonomous Tactical Robot, is a robotic ground vehicle that Finkelstein's small company is designing with Defense Department funding; it can sustain itself on long missions by foraging for twigs, leaves and other kinds of vegetation.

But wild speculation on the Internet earlier this month was that Robotic Technology Inc. and a partner were building flesh-eating robots for the Pentagon.

Scores of blogs and news sites, including FoxNews.com, ran with the unfounded reporting. The online furor caught the companies off guard and turned into a major distraction. The companies' experience illustrates the challenges businesses and public relations agencies now navigate.

"The media environment is constantly changing, and I think that's the biggest

obstacle" companies face right now, said Todd Scott, spokesman for Himmelrich PR, a public relations company in Baltimore. "You used to know what the rules were, and now the rules change every day."

Many companies are monitoring what people write online about their brands and try to nip bad publicity in the bud. But it's hard to tell where a wave of negative publicity will originate.

Facebook, for instance, faced a torrent of criticism this year when a consumer blog pointed out a change in its terms of service that could affect users' privacy. And United Airlines was mocked by a country music singer in a YouTube video, now watched more than 3.8 million times, for destroying his guitar during baggage handling in March.

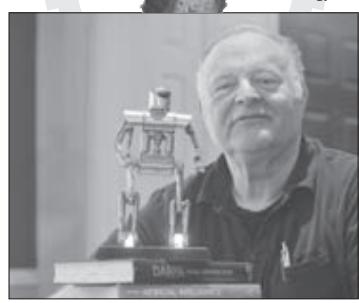
Robotic Technology Inc. of Maryland and its partner, engine-developer Cyclone Power Technologies Inc. of Florida, learned a few lessons from the Internet speculation surrounding EATR.

"I was shocked," Finkelstein said. "For the future, I learned I shouldn't be so cavalier about information that goes out into the world."

For two companies more accustomed to geeky coverage in science publications, their misinterpreted project received wacky, A-list attention on the Internet. PerezHilton.com, a popular



Courtesy of Robotic Technology Inc.



KIM HAIRSTON/The Baltimore Sun

Robert Finkelstein's company, Robotic Technology Inc., was the center of media attention when an announcement about the eating habits of EATR (artist's rendering shown above) was misinterpreted as meaning it could consume human flesh.

gossip site, featured EATR as a machine that ate "dead bodies" in a blog post, with a photo of Robocop. Gizmodo, one of the most popular tech blogs, proclaimed the

U.S. government was funding development of a flesh-eating robot.

The speculation that launched EATR into the popular consciousness as a carnivore can be traced to a straightforward news release from Cyclone on July 7. The word "biomass" in the release was misinterpreted to mean EATR could feed on corpses on a battlefield.

It reached a fever pitch in mid-July, when FoxNews, FastCompany and CNET published online reports repeating the speculation, without first checking with Robotic Technologies or Cyclone.

The companies' Web sites were swamped. The project's main sponsor, the Defense Department's Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, or DARPA, wanted the public record corrected. Cyclone issued a second news release July 16, calling EATR a "vegetarian" — leading to even more news coverage. A story about EATR being a "vegetarian" ran Britain's Guardian newspaper.

So did the company ever consider powering a robot using corpses? Never, Cyclone Chief Executive Harry Schoell said.

"It's not even efficient," he said, describing the human body as essentially a sack of water. "It's not practical. It's ridiculous."

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YOUR MONEY

Credit card firms hike interest rates

BY NANCY TREJOS

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — When President Obama signed legislation that restricts many credit card company practices that consumer groups have long complained about, bank executives said it would force them to raise interest rates across the board.

That might be happening.

According to IndexCreditCards.com, which tracks the industry, credit card rates hit an 18-month high in July. The Web site's review of rates offered by issuers including American Express, Bank of America and Citibank found that the average rate on consumer cards was 14.94 percent, more than a full point higher than in March.

"It's a double whammy for consumers right now," says Adam Jusko, founder of IndexCreditCards.com. "Card issuers were already raising rates in response to higher defaults in an unstable economic environment. Then the new credit card law was passed. While the law doesn't fully take

effect until February, it's provided issuers with a second justification for rate hikes."

The Web site also shows average interest rates for specific types of cards. For instance, the average rate for consumer cards with rewards programs was 15.32 percent, compared with 14.04 percent for non-rewards cards. Student credit cards had an average of 15.33 percent.

And national research and policy firm Demos found that the average credit card debt of low-to-middle-income indebted households was \$9,827. Credit card debt has quadrupled since 1989, the firm found in its second national survey of households whose incomes fell between 50 and 120 percent of the local median income.

What's worse, one out of three households reported using credit cards to cover basic living expenses for an average of five out of the last 12 months.

The new law won't go into effect until February. It's unclear how these households will reap the benefits of the law.

15.32%

Average interest rate on rewards credit cards, according to IndexCreditCards.com



CHARLES KRUPA/AP

Rob Barnes and his mother Barbara Heffner go over their budgets at their home in Wayland, Mass. Rob's parents allow him to use their credit card, then go through the bill and split the charges.

Students should learn budgeting before they head off to college

BY EILEEN AJ CONNELLY
The Associated Press

Rob Barnes's penchant for buying T-shirts got the "clothing" category bumped from his parents' side of the college spending ledger to his own.

It may not be the sort of thing most people would think to figure into a college budget plan, but

Barnes's T-shirt habit is representative of the spending choices that crop up as a student settles in to life on campus. From pizza runs to dorm-room decorations, Greek Week festivities to football games, the list of temptations for a student's dollar is practically endless.

"I have been amazed with how fast the \$10, \$15, and \$20 charges seem to add up," said Barnes, who is about to enter his junior year as an English major at Colby-Sawyer College in New London, N.H.

Preparing college-bound students for the numerous financial decisions they'll have to make is an important step in getting them ready for school. Skip over addressing the issue of making responsible spending choices, and parents might find themselves receiving a steady stream of "Send more money!!!" text messages.

A frank conversation about how much money is available and who will pay for what can be seen as "the equivalent of giving them the last financial inoculation before they go into the real world," said Jason Alderman, director of financial education for Visa Inc. "Setting that expectation that there will be a budget is really important to do before your kid goes to college."

The conversation should include making a list of the types of spending that students will face and who is going to cover what costs.

Beyond tuition, school fees, books, and housing, decisions must be made about necessities like food and transportation. Does it make sense for your child to take part in a campus meal plan, or would cooking be a better choice? Should your son or daughter have a car on campus and risk parking tickets and emergency repairs along with facing high gas prices? Or will public transportation suffice?

Students who are living off-

campus need to also consider utilities and household supplies.

Making the planning more difficult is the fact that prices can vary widely in different parts of the country, so it's important to try to get some feeling for the costs where their schools are located.

Joining a fraternity or sorority is an option at many schools, but can come with a hefty price tag: up to \$1,000 or more to pledge with some Greek organizations, plus ongoing dues and the costs of activities. Costs to cover equipment, travel, and other aspects of taking part in athletics can also mount.

Most campuses also offer dozens, sometimes hundreds of clubs. While many can be free to join, activities may also give rise to additional costs.

Finally, whether your kid attends a top-ranked party school or a quiet campus, there's always opportunities to spend money on fun.

Costs here can again span a wide range — a night on the town near a Big 10 campus in the Midwest, for instance, will set a student back a far smaller amount than a similar night near an urban school.

Barnes's parents, Barbara Heffner and Carl Barnes, initially covered his clothing expenses, for instance. But they became less willing to do so as the T-shirt collection grew — he has about 150, although he notes that some were free.

"It wasn't that there was a credit card bill where there was \$50 worth of T-shirts," Heffner said. "It was the accumulation."

Credit cards are one important issue that can't be overlooked.

"It used to be that students were handed a credit card that was only for necessities," said Dan Mica, chief executive of the Credit Union National Association. "And the necessities turned out to be pizza and beer."

MONDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES

52-week High	Low	Name	Last	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD % Chg	52-wk % Chg
11,867.11	6,469.95	Dow Jones Industrials	9,286.56	+11.95	+1.2%	+5.81	-17.70
5,293.41	2,134.21	Dow Jones Transportation	3,674.84	+94.85	+2.6%	+3.89	-25.16
489.85	288.61	Dow Jones Utilities	372.86	+3.39	+0.9%	+5.7	-19.39
8,565.40	4,181.75	NYSE Composite	6,565.65	+141.37	+2.2%	+2.79	-20.60
2,189.30	1,130.47	Amex Index	1,722.79	+13.42	+0.8%	+22.37	-18.66
2,473.20	1,265.52	Nasdaq Composite	2,008.61	+30.11	+1.5%	+27.37	-12.12
1,313.15	666.79	S&P 500	1,002.63	+15.15	+1.5%	+17.00	-19.73
828.09	397.97	S&P MidCap	640.94	+12.89	+2.0%	+19.07	-18.47
13,382.96	6,772.29	Wilshire 5000	10,332.40	+173.79	+1.7%	+13.70	-18.89
764.38	342.59	Russell 2000	565.78	+9.07	+1.6%	+13.28	-19.65

NYSE

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

NASDAQ

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates

Japanese yen (Aug. 5) 92.00

South Korean won (Aug. 5) 1,187.00

Euro costs (Aug. 5) \$1,4680

Dollar buys (Aug. 5) € 0.6812

British pound (Aug. 5) \$1.74

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar) 3770

British pound \$1,6953

Canada (Dollar) 1.0688

China (Yuan) 6.8322

Denmark (Krone) 5.1653

Egypt (Pound) 5.5355

Euro \$1,4419/6935

Hong Kong (Dollar) 7.7501

Hungary (Forint) 184.71

Israel (Shekel) 3,8660

Japan (Yen) 95.02

Kuwait (Dinar) 2,2864

Norway (Krone) 6.0380

Philippines (Peso) 47.80

Poland (Zloty) 2.85

Saudi Arabia (Riyal) 3,7503

Singapore (Dollar) 1,4338

South Korea (Won) 1212.80

Switzerland (Franc) 1,0594

Thailand (Baht) 33.99

Turkey (New Lira) 1,4618

(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities in the country of issuance for Japan, South Korea, Germany, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom. For nonlocal currency exchange rates (i.e., purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility. Commercial rates are interbank rates provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies to one dollar, except for the British pound, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS

KEY MUTUAL FUNDS

PRECIOUS METALS

New York Merc close

Gold \$956.60

Silver \$14.245

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate 3.25

Discount rate 0.50

Federal funds market rate 0.00-0.25

3-month bill 0.17

30-year bond 4.41

Sources: Bank of America, The Associated Press

4 women accused in lover's revenge plot

By ROBERT IMRIE
The Associated Press

WAUSAU, Wis. — A married man who planned to rendezvous with one of his handful of lovers at an eastern Wisconsin motel instead found himself bound, blindfolded and assaulted by a group of women out for revenge, according to court documents.

Four women, including his wife, eventually showed up to humiliate the man, who ended up with his penis glued to his stomach in a bizarre plot to punish him for a lover's quadrangle gone bad,

according to the documents filed in Calumet County.

Now it's the women who face punishment, perhaps six years in prison.

Wendy Sewell, 43, of Kaukauna, Therese Ziemann, 48, of Menasha, Michelle Belliveau, 43, of Neenah, and the man's wife are charged with being party to false imprisonment, a felony. Ziemann also is charged with fourth-degree sexual assault.



Sewell



Belliveau



Ziemann

man's wife to protect his identity as an alleged victim of sexual assault.

Criminal complaints filed Friday allege the man agreed to be bound with "sheer sheets" and blindfolded with a pillowcase for a "rub down" by Ziemann. She instead cut off his underwear with a scissors and summoned the others to the room with a text message.

Ziemann struck the man in the face and used Krazy Glue to attach his penis to his stomach when the other women arrived, according

to the complaints. He also said he was threatened with a gun.

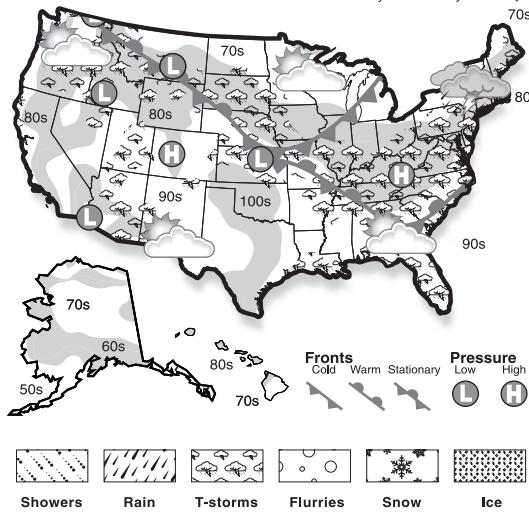
Ziemann told investigators she met the man online through Craigslist, fell in love and paid for his use of a room at the motel for the past two months. She said she gave him about \$3,000. Then last Wednesday, she learned from the man's wife that he was married, had other girlfriends and was "using them for money."

The man got free from the bed by chewing through one of his bindings, went outside and borrowed a telephone from the motel owner to call police.

WEATHER OUTLOOK

National forecast

Forecast highs for Wednesday, Aug. 5



Tuesday's global temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Weather
City Hi Lo Weather			
Amsterdam, 71	53	clr	
Athens, 91	75	clr	
Auckland, 57	48	rn	
Baghdad, 109	82	clr	
Basra, 117	88	clr	
Bahrain, 99	87	rn	
Bangkok, 92	80	rn	
Barbados, 88	79	rn	
Barcelona, 78	71	clr	
Beijing, 89	73	clr	
Belur, 91	76	clr	
Belgrade, 96	70	clr	
Berlin, 69	57	rn	
Bermuda, 86	79	pc	
Bogota, 68	51	pc	
Brasilia, 84	55	pc	
Brisbane, 71	46	clr	
Brussels, 70	49	clr	
Bucharest, 95	59	clr	
Budapest, 91	66	pc	
Buenos Aires, 59	47	pc	
Cairo, 95	77	pc	
Calgary, 59	46	rn	
Caracas, 93	80	clr	
Colombo, 86	80	pc	
Copenhagen, 66	62	rn	
Dhahran, 109	86	clr	
Dhaka, 93	82	rn	
Dili, 87	67	clr	
Dubai, 110	90	clr	
Dublin, 68	56	rn	
Frankfurt, 72	58	rn	
Geneva, 71	55	pc	
Guatemala, 77	62	pc	
Hanoi, 94	82	pc	
Harare, 76	56	clr	
Havana, 93	71	rn	
Helsinki, 75	53	pc	
Hong Kong, 96	82	rn	
Islamabad, 101	80	pc	
Istanbul, 89	71	clr	
Jakarta, 89	71	clr	
Jerusalem, 91	75	pc	
Johannesburg, 60	42	pc	
Kabul, 89	71	clr	
Kiev, 85	57	pc	
Kuala Lumpur, 92	76	pc	
Kuwait, 113	93	clr	

Weather Underground • AP

Active Weather Persists in Eastern And Central US

A trough of low pressure in the East will support a series of showers and storms in the Southeast and Eastern Valleys, while warm weather is expected to grip the East Coast. Impulses moving through the Central US will also trigger storms in the Plains.

THURSDAY'S FORECAST



Air Force Weather/www.afweather.af.mil

Tuesday's U.S. temperatures

City	Hi	Lo	Precip	Weather
City Hi Lo Precip Weather				
Abilene, Tex.	97	73	cdy	
Akron, Ohio	79	64	rn	
Albany, N.Y.	79	58	cdy	
Albuquerque	98	73	cdy	
Allentown, Pa.	81	59	cdy	
Amarillo	95	71	cdy	
Anchorage	73	52	cdy	
Asheville	84	58	cdy	
Atlanta	90	73	cdy	
Atlantic City	87	65	clr	
Austin	102	70	clr	
Baltimore	85	66	cdy	
Baton Rouge	93	75	cdy	
Billings	89	57	cdy	
Birmingham	91	72	clr	
Bismarck	82	44	cdy	
Boise	98	70	cdy	
Boston	82	68	cdy	
Bridgeport	82	67	clr	
Brownsville	97	77	clr	
Buffalo	77	68	cdy	
Burlington, Vt.	78	57	cdy	
Caribou, Maine	79	54	cdy	
Casper	95	49	cdy	
Charleston, S.C.	90	74	cdy	
Charleston, W.Va.	81	60	cdy	
Charlotte, N.C.	88	66	clr	
Chattanooga	90	70	cdy	
Cheyenne	88	51	cdy	
Chicago	84	68	.07	cdy
Cincinnati	80	69	cdy	
Cleveland	81	70	cdy	
Colorado Springs	90	57	cdy	
Columbia, S.C.	92	73	clr	
Columbus, Ga.	90	72	cdy	
Columbus, Ohio	80	66	rn	
Concord, N.H.	82	53	clr	
Corpus Christi	98	78	cdy	
Dallas-Ft Worth	99	78	clr	
Dayton	80	67	.25	cdy
Daytona Beach	94	74	cdy	
Detroit	83	68	cdy	
Duluth	76	49	cdy	
El Paso	97	74	cdy	
Elkins	79	57	cdy	
Erie	79	68	rn	
Eugene	90	55	cdy	
Evansville	86	76	rn	
Fairbanks	95	55	cdy	
Fargo	83	44	cdy	
Flagstaff	88	58	cdy	
Flint	80	68	cdy	
Fort Smith	93	73	.30	cdy
Fort Wayne	83	65	cdy	
Fresno	94	67	cdy	
Goodland	99	56	cdy	
Grand Junction	100	63	cdy	
Grand Rapids	86	69	.01	cdy
Great Falls	78	51	cdy	
Green Bay	83	63	cdy	
Greensboro	N.C.	88	67	cdy
Harrisburg	82	64	cdy	
Hartford Spfgld	85	60	cdy	
Helena	87	59	cdy	
Houston	100	75	cdy	
Huntsville	90	73	cdy	
Indianapolis	84	73	cdy	
Jackson, Miss.	92	74	clr	
Jacksonville	87	73	.03	cdy
Juneau	74	47	clr	
Kansas City	92	71	.02	rn
Key West	92	85	cdy	
Knoxville	85	65	cdy	
Lake Charles	92	75	clr	
Lansing	82	68	.02	cdy
Las Vegas	103	86	cdy	
Lexington	81	69	.01	rn
Lincoln	94	68	.07	cdy
Little Rock	94	75	cdy	
Los Angeles	87	66	cdy	
Louisville	84	73	rn	
Lubbock	95	68	cdy	
Macon	91	70	.04	cdy
Madison	84	60	cdy	
Medford	98	68	cdy	
Memphis	92	77	.02	cdy
Miami Beach	93	83	.01	cdy
Midland-Odessa	91	72	cdy	
Milwaukee	88	67	cdy	
Mpls-St Paul	82	64	cdy	
Missoula	93	56	cdy	
Mobile	92	72	.40	cdy
Montgomery	93	73	cdy	
Nashville	89	72	rn	
New Orleans	92	76	.02	cdy
New York City	84	68	clr	
Newark	87	67	clr	
Norfolk	Va.	87	74	cdy
North Platte	88	58	.26	cdy
Oklahoma City	98	70	clr	
Omaha	90	69	.01	cdy
Orlando	91	73	.14	rn
Paducah	88	76	cdy	
Pendleton	99	67	cdy	
Peoria	83	71	cdy	
Philadelphia	86	70	cdy	
Phoenix	114	93	clr	
Pittsburgh	79	62	cdy	
Pocatello	93	55	cdy	
Portland	Maine	81	60	clr
Portland, Ore.	90	59	cdy	
Providence	83	66	cdy	
Pueblo	98	58	cdy	
Raleigh-Durham	95	67	.03	cdy
Rapid City	92	50	.01	cdy
Reno	94	64	cdy	
Richmond	89	70	cdy	
Roanoke	85	64	cdy	
Rochester	78	64	cdy	
Rockford	84	63	cdy	
Sacramento	85	57	clr	
St Louis	93	80	rn	
St Petersburg	92	80	cdy	
St Thomas	88	80	.01	cdy
Salem, Ore.	89	54	cdy	
Salt Lake City	98	73	cdy	
San Angelo	95	75	cdy	
San Antonio	101	76	clr	
San Diego	80	70	cdy	
San Francisco	70	58	cdy	
San Jose	75	60	cdy	
San Juan, P.R.	91	79	.20	cdy
Santa Fe	94	60	.01	cdy
Savannah	90	73	2.55	cdy
Seattle	82	56	cdy	
Shreveport	94	76	clr	
Sioux City	87	68	cdy	
Sioux Falls	83	59	cdy	
South Bend	85	65	cdy	
Spokane	93	66	cdy	
Springfield, Ill.	83	71	rn	
Springfield, Mo.	93	72	cdy	
Syracuse	82	64	cdy	
Tallahassee	91	73	.13	cdy
Tampa	91	79	.01	cdy
Toledo	85	65	cdy	
Topeka	95	70	.40	cdy
Tucson	108	83	clr	
Tulsa	99	79	cdy	
Tupelo	92	74	cdy	
Waco	102	78	cdy	
Washington, D.C.	87	72	cdy	
W.Palm Beach	92	78	cdy	
Wichita Falls	99	73	clr	
Wilkes-Barre	79	58	cdy	
Wilmington, Del.	85	65	cdy	
Youngstown	80	64	rn	
National temperature extremes				
High: Mon., 116, Death Valley, Calif.				
Low:Tues., 39, Lake Yellowstone, Wyo. and Big Piney, Wyo.				

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Who's being wasteful?

This is in response to "Where's the portion control?" (letter, July 31). My first reaction was, simply — seriously? The letter writer has nothing better to do than to count the amount of chicken that some civilian contractor receives in the chow line?

He said, "So who pays for this waste? Every one of us who pays taxes." Which is the bigger waste of money? Providing an awesome array of food choices and portions for soldiers and civilians serving in a war zone far from the luxuries of home, or the fact that someone is getting paid to sit there and complain about it?

I fight daily to keep 135 Airborne infantrymen motivated and focused on the task at hand — partnering with and mentoring Iraqi Security Forces — so that we can all go home finally — a task, I might add, that we have been extremely successful at. Maybe that way we can help alleviate this heinous abuse of taxpayers' money.

I invite the letter writer to come on down and enjoy the fine dining we have to offer. I can assure him that we don't let anything go to waste here. I'll warn him ahead of time though, we're a little short on Baskin-Robbins.

Sgt. 1st Class Neil Fletcher
Joint Security Station Carver, Iraq

There is no portion control'

I am a civilian at Camp Taji, Iraq, and have the privilege of using any of the three dining facilities at this base. We are committed and dedicated South Africans and work long hours.

There are notifications put up all over the DFAC specifying limits on take-away meals that are not adhered to. I have also encountered exactly the same experience [as the writer of] "Where's the portion control?"

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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There is no portion control. I visit [the DFAC] once a day and have to tell the guys dishing up, "Please, not so much." I can get by for three days with one serving.

These catering companies have carte blanche, as long as they get the allocated money per meal, which I know is not a small amount. They couldn't care less about how much food they dish out or about the taxpayer. The more meals they cook, the more money they get.

Coert Erasmus
Camp Taji, Iraq

'Birthers' are patriots

Stars and Stripes and the reporter forfeited journalistic integrity to join the lemming herd of state-run stenographers who've enlisted to serve a demagogue rather than dutifully investigate government

usurpations ("Reservist drags Army into Obama conspiracy theory," July 31). Using op-ed terms such as "notorious," "bizarre" and "fringe" to disparagingly caricature concerned citizens with legitimate apprehension over President Barack Obama's eligibility in a front-page story, they join the chorus of sophists who raucously employ intimidation and ridicule to silence opposition rather than discover the truth. Who then are the fascists? Where is the objective, free press?

Despite the reporter's claims, the issue remains unresolved. Constitutional requirements trump the Privacy Act. Yet Obama arrogantly refuses to reveal his long-form birth certificate (not the meaningless short-form found online) and finally prove conclusively his constitutional qualifications to serve. Why?

If our Constitution is to be folded, spindled and mutilated, selectively enforced or ignored to suit personal whims of government bureaucrats, or "mob rule," then the "rule of law" it represents no longer exists. And by extension, those who have volunteered a solemn oath to support and defend the Constitution with their lives needlessly sacrifice sweat and blood for a fading, antiquated scrap of meaningless words.

AOL poll results show more than 80 percent of respondents want Obama to reveal his long-form birth certificate and settle this matter. So, why pillory those asking for proof? Why ridicule patriots who seek to enforce the rule of law encapsulated in the Constitution? If they really are Looney Tune, conspiracy-theorist kooks, why not prove it by displaying the long-form for all to see? If we're all for transparency in government, why hide it? Or should we forfeit the blessings of liberty and swear allegiance to a man rather than the law?

Where's the birth certificate?

John Wilson
Baghdad

Iran show trials in Stalinist tradition

Washington Post editorial

Borrowing a page from Stalin's Russia, Iran's increasingly wobbly regime has embarked on a contemptible spectacle of show trials as a means of punishing opponents who dared question the disputed June 12 elections. The idea is not only to humiliate the more than 100 figures — including prominent former politicians and high-ranking government officials — who were herded into court Saturday on trumped-up accusations of threatening national security, a charge that potentially carries the death sentence. It is also to send a message to others who would challenge the regime's already shaky authority. . .

Like the Moscow show trials of the 1930s, the mullahs' sham display of "justice" in Tehran over the weekend featured disoriented-looking defendants using stilted language to "confess" to seeking to destabilize the regime at the behest of Western powers. [In]credulous colleagues, relatives and al-

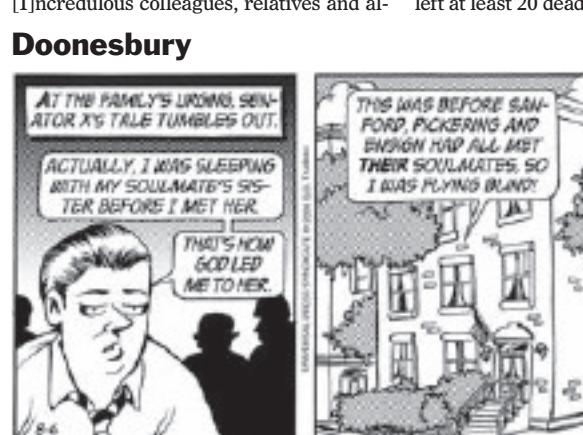
lies of the accused have watched, stunned, as people they know well have made public pronouncements in words that are clearly not their own. . . Among those accused in the rambling, manifesto-like indictment is Mohammad-Ali Abtahi, a reformist former vice president; Shirin Ebadi, the Iranian Nobel laureate; and Maziar Bahari, a Newsweek journalist who, brought out to speak to reporters covering the trial, asked forgiveness from the Iranian people for what he described as the media's supposed role in promoting a "velvet revolution."

The "confessions," almost certainly produced under duress, are meant to frighten the community of Iranian reformers, up to and including top-ranking figures such as former Presidents Mohammad Khatami and Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, as well as Mir Hossein Mousavi, the opposition candidate whose official defeat at the polls in June triggered street protests that left at least 20 dead.

Having miscalculated the mood of at least a segment of the public by prematurely pronouncing seemingly lopsided electoral results, the regime now may compound its error by moving directly against those opposition leaders. The fundamentalist media loyal to the supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, is calling for their prosecution on charges of treason. . .

The trials have reinforced the image of a regime whose extremely modest tolerance for public dissent has shriveled as its own grip on power has weakened. Opposition protests continue in the streets of Tehran despite a crackdown by hard-line militias loyal to the regime. Public spats are reported between Khamenei and Mahmoud Ahmadinejad, the president who was sworn in Monday. These are dangerous days in Tehran, which only underscores the dilemma the Obama administration faces as it clings to a strategy of engaging Iran to contain its nuclear ambitions. Who is there to talk to?

By GARRY TRudeau



OPINION

Faces have changed, but vitriol remains

By MICHAEL SMERCONISH
The Philadelphia Inquirer

Six months into the Obama administration, one form of change has indeed come.

The level of divisiveness that so dogged the Bush administration has already engulfed his successor. The viciousness that characterized so many of George W. Bush's critics on the left has now infected the right. In terms of discourse, the country is right back where we were a year ago.

For years, Bush endured the unquenchable bitterness of many opponents. Former U.S. Rep. Cynthia McKinney claimed the administration knew in advance about the Sept. 11 attacks and failed to act. Then the "9/11 was an inside job" crowd was drowned out by the more mainstream assertion that "Bush lied" about the reasons behind the invasion of Iraq. Or was it that he was coerced by Dick Cheney, the Vader-esque puppeteer calling the shots from behind the curtain? The hate-Bush movement was on display nightly each time Keith Olbermann would launch into one of his caustic rants.

Eventually, the constant ridiculing of Bush and Cheney created a climate of political paralysis in Washington — a condition that has unfortunately survived the

transfer of power. Talk about a taste of its own medicine.

The presidential campaign that fostered Internet lore about President Barack Obama — that he once attended a madrasa and wouldn't place his hand over his heart during the national anthem — has given way to an administration plagued by questions about the president's birth certificate and allegations of racism.

Typical is the June 30 town hall event hosted by U.S. Rep. Mike Castle, R-Del. An audience member drew wild applause when she stood up toting an American flag and demanded to know "why are you people ignoring [Obama's] birth certificate?"

"I don't want this flag to change!" she yelled over the frenzy she'd whipped up. "I want my country back!"

That same woman had elsewhere predicted that humans would soon make contact with aliens hasn't caught on as swiftly as her YouTube moment. Nor has the fact that she once admitted to talking with an angel that had taken on human form.

Why? Because for an emerging segment of Americans, the messenger's credibility or lack thereof is irrelevant to the end goal: Demonize the president.

Forget that candidate Obama released what has been inde-

pendently deemed an authentic certification of birth. Or that Hawaii's Health Department has repeatedly verified that it has the president's vital records on file. Or that the Honolulu Advertiser ran his birth announcement.

The facts will always fail to assuage a minority in the electorate that traffic in hate and vitriol. What Olbermann did to Bush, Lou Dobbs has now directed toward Obama. He provided a ready forum for the "birthers," even while trying to say he personally believes the president to be a U.S. citizen. Rush Limbaugh wasn't afraid to call Sonia Sotomayor a reverse racist and a hack. And on Fox News, Glenn Beck just called the president himself a racist.

This pundit polarization accomplishes one thing — ratings. In July, nine of the top 10 cable news shows were on Fox. Meanwhile, MSNBC has surpassed CNN in several ratings demographics. Television viewers — and radio listeners — seem to have an insatiable appetite for reinforcement. (Who knew Pavlov's dog was actually a political model?) And so those perpetuating the cycle get rewarded while the environment they create causes the political process to suffer.

The constant cross talk of cheap shots represents a startling decline in decorum. Gone in some



quarters is a basic level of respect for the office of the presidency. Remember when Bush was booed and derisively serenaded ("Nah nah nah nah, hey hey hey, goodbye!") at Obama's inauguration?

None of this is intended to argue for watering down legitimate political debate and disagreement. It's perfectly appropriate to disagree in a substantive way with the president, to object to his policies, and even to use ridicule to

make a political point. But there's a line, and labeling the president a racist is crossing it. The name-calling, disrespect for the office, and antagonism cheapen the country's level of discourse.

Unfortunately, the spin cycle we've worked ourselves into shows no sign of slowing down. That's not change. It's more of the same.

Michael Smerconish writes a weekly column for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

Program is music to patients' ears at Walter Reed

By ANNE APPLEBAUM
The Washington Post

Two years ago, someone called up Arthur Bloom with an unusual request: A badly wounded soldier, a former drummer, wanted to start playing music again. Trouble was, he'd lost a leg in Iraq and couldn't use his old drum kit. Did Bloom have any ideas?

As it happened, Bloom did have some ideas. He is a classically trained pianist who can mix a rap song, a composer whose work has been performed by the Israel Chamber Orchestra, Def Jam records and everything in between. Tinkering with musical instruments is the kind of thing he does for fun. Bloom went to Walter Reed Army Medical Center, met the drummer and rigged up a drum set. Then he went back — again, and then again — until finally he founded a program, Musicorps, designed to teach music to disabled soldiers. It wasn't just the appeal of "helping veterans" that drew Bloom in. It was also what he learned about what one of his protégés has memorably described as "the healing power of death metal."

As that phrase perhaps conveys, Bloom's project isn't standard music therapy. On the contrary, after working with a few patients at Walter Reed, he realized that a severely injured person doesn't need just a few guitar lessons or some soothing sounds but, rather, what he calls "real" music: serious, one-on-one, customized training; ongoing collaboration; and professional mentors who can give their co-musicians a sense of purpose, of moving forward. In pursuit of this idea, he persuaded donors to give him instruments, got Apple's Steve Jobs to donate computers and set up what looks like a mini-recording studio in one of the residential houses at Walter Reed. Bloom started hanging around the house, ready to teach, practice or produce origi-

nal music with the vets — or, if so required, to rewrite a piece of piano music so that a one-armed veteran could play it with his artificial hand.

The result? Well, there are halls of residence at Walter Reed where depressed young men sit and stare at the walls. And then there is the music session I watched recently, during which a young soldier with an artificial leg, shrapnel wounds and no prior musical training practiced complex electric guitar riffs to the pace of an electronic drumbeat. A visiting guitarist kept setting that beat faster and faster, forcing the vet to play faster and faster, until all broke out in howls of laughter. Meanwhile, another soldier, who also has an artificial leg, tinkered with his rap lyrics. He hopes to get one of his songs, mixed and recorded at Walter Reed ("it's about being blown up in Iraq"), played on the radio.

It was a cheerful scene, but it was more than that, too. Many of the soldiers at Walter Reed sustained some level of brain

damage in the explosions that ripped off their arms or legs. Allen Brown, director of brain research and rehabilitation at the Mayo Clinic — and a Musicorps adviser — reckons that because the process of learning to play music requires using so many different parts of the brain, it may literally help the brain recover, to compensate for severe injury. Brown is working with Bloom, he told me, to devise a way to "clinically evaluate this process," not least so that it can be repeated elsewhere. So far more than a dozen veterans have been helped by Musicorps; dozens more want to join. Thousands more could benefit. The word is spreading — the country singer John Rich visited last week — but nothing involving professional musicians can run on volunteer energy forever.

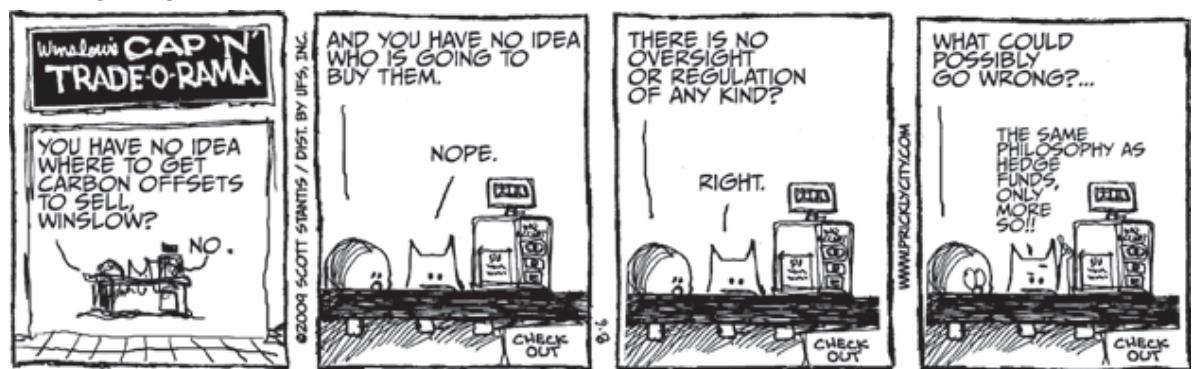
The project is extraordinary on its own — look on the Musicorps Web site (<http://musicorps.net>) for more details — but it carries a constellation of implications. In the spring of 2007, Congress agonized

over the fate of wounded soldiers at Walter Reed, following a Washington Post investigation into shabby buildings and shabbier bureaucracy at the nation's main military hospital. The fresh paint and better services that resulted from that scandal are only the beginning of what needs to be done.

It's been a long, long time since there have been so many wounded Americans to care for, and neither our military nor our government are good at inventing customized recovery programs like Musicorps. Entrepreneurs like Bloom can come up with new solutions; the question is whether our health care system, and our philanthropic organizations, have become too ossified to support them. In its narrow way, the fate of Bloom's program will tell a lot about how well we are going to care for the thousands of men and women severely wounded in the wars of the past decade, men and women who will go on needing care for many decades to come.

Anne Applebaum is a Washington Post columnist.

Prickly City



By SCOTT STANTIS

That's not how bling is worn

TX SAN ANTONIO — A delivery driver in San Antonio is accused of stealing about \$30,000 worth of jewelry by stuffing the bling into his shoes.

A police report says Joshua Rodriguez, 23, who worked for UPS, was charged with theft of more than \$20,000.

The report says an end-of-shift security check of Rodriguez turned up items intended for delivery to a jewelry store. Police say Rodriguez had been suspected of taking expensive items, including gold chains and rings.

Rodriguez was freed on \$10,000 bond.

Test might determine future gang members

CA LOS ANGELES — Los Angeles officials say a multiple-choice test might help them determine what kinds of young people join street gangs.

University of Southern California researchers have found 10 factors that channel children into gangs, including poor parenting, justifying delinquent behavior and traumatic events.

Those findings are used to develop the 74-question survey called the Youth Services Eligibility Test. A child with at least five factors is deemed "at risk" and offered programs such as counseling, anger management, and tutoring.

High speed rail backers have high hopes

VA RICHMOND — Supporters of high speed rail in Virginia hope their time has finally arrived.

With the federal government setting aside \$9.3 billion for rail projects nationwide, Virginians for High Speed Rail say there's never been a better time to create new railways across the commonwealth.

The first priority is a high speed line connecting Northern Virginia with Petersburg, parallel to the busy Interstate 95. But the rail advocates support a number of additional options, including two plans that would link Hampton Roads to Richmond.

Competition for the federal dollars will be intense, though. Already, about 40 states have put in roughly \$103.5 billion worth of requests.

Budget woes challenge day-labor centers

AZ PHOENIX — Until a day-labor center opened nearby, job seekers in Keenan Strand's north Phoenix neighborhood used to drink from people's hoses, urinate on walls and duck behind bushes to escape triple-digit heat while waiting for work.

Now the economic downturn is threatening the 6-year-old day-labor center and others like it around the country.

Advocates worry that job seekers will return to neighborhoods and street corners in search of work.

Strand says the Phoenix neighborhood supported the job center because it brought order.

The economic crisis has forced



AMERICAN ROUNDUP

officials to shelve a plan to build homes and office buildings that would fund the day-labor center in the future.

The work center currently is struggling to keep up with payments.

Dog gets new home after bridge incident

VA DANVILLE — A dog has a new home with the Danville Area Humane Society after allegedly being thrown from a local bridge.

Danville District Court Judge M. Lee Stilwell ordered Geraldine Turner to turn over the year-old dog, named Franklin, to the shelter, along with another dog she owns.

Turner testified that she asked Cecil McLaughlin to find a new home for Franklin, but didn't ask the beagle/Jack Russell mix to be thrown into a ravine beneath a local bridge.

Humane Society Executive Director Paulette Dean says Franklin only suffered minor injuries.

Aryan Nations gone but 'stain' remains

ID HAYDEN LAKE — The house where Aryan Nations founder Richard Butler lived has been demolished. So has the



Bright idea

Nearly 10,000 children built an 8-foot by 6-foot LEGO light bulb, the universal icon of big ideas, to kick off National Inventors' Month with the Smithsonian's Lemelson Center for the Study of Invention and Innovation in Washington, D.C.

church where he preached his racist religion. Cows graze where hundreds of white supremacists used to burn crosses in the summer.

The Aryan Nations is long gone from northern Idaho, but its reputation lingers to the chagrin of locals.

When a man recently shot up the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C., much was made of the fact that accused shooter James von Brunn spent a few days in 2004 in this area, living with a fellow anti-Semite before he was evicted for being too radical.

"The stain is so deep," said Tony Stewart, a long time resident who helped evict the Aryan Nations. "We feel stereotyped in a way that is unjust."

Hospital nixes deep-fried food

VT LEBANON — A year after banning cigarettes, a Vermont hospital is shutting the door to deep-fried food.

Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon scratched food like french fries, fried chicken and salads served in deep-fried taco shells from its menu as of July 4, a year to the day after smoking was banned there.

Nurse Hilarie Snogren told the Valley News she'll miss chicken-finger Mondays. But she said she understands the reason for the new policy.

Virginian drowns in ocean off Myrtle Beach

SC MYRTLE BEACH — Authorities say a 50-year-old Virginia man drowned in the ocean off Myrtle Beach after pushing his wife to safety.

Horry County deputy coroner Tamara Willard says Timothy Reynolds and his wife were swimming in the ocean when people heard them screaming for help. The bystanders rescued her after Reynolds pushed her toward shore.

Police say when the bystanders went back for Reynolds, he was floating. They dragged him ashore, performed CPR and called 911.

Woman held in slaying of Holocaust survivor

NY NEW YORK — A New York City woman has been accused of strangling an 89-year-old man who survived the Holocaust after being sent to Auschwitz.

Guido Felix Brinkmann, who used to run a nightclub in New York, was found in his bed with his hands bound. He had been beaten and asphyxiated, police said.

His apartment was messy, but there was no sign of forced entry, according to authorities.

Investigators said he regularly invited younger women to his apartment for sex, but his relationship with the woman wasn't clear. Brinkmann's doorman told police a man and a woman went to the home the night before his body was found. The two were later seen in Brinkmann's car.

Brinkmann was the former owner of a nightclub called Adam's Apple.

Angela Murray, 30, of New York, was arraigned Sunday on murder and robbery charges. Her male companion was being sought.



Trailblazers

U.S. Navy Blue Angels perform during the Key Bank Air Show in Seattle.



Taking the fall

Chris Swanson, 42, cools off in the Willamette River after fishing along a dock in Portland, Ore.



An amusing stunt

Nik Wallenda of Sarasota, Fla., walks on a 335-foot wire suspended 83 feet high between two towers of a roller coaster at Dorney Park in South Whitehall Township, Pa., one stop on his tour of Cedar Fair Entertainment Company Amusement Parks Nationwide.



Dirty dancers

Concert-goers jump over one another in a mud pit during the All Points West music festival at Liberty State Park in Jersey City, N.J.



I think I like it

Maggie Stevens, 5, of Vicksburg, Miss., looks at a dress while she and her mother take advantage of Mississippi's first sales tax holiday to shop in Popfizz, a children's clothing store, for school clothes in Jackson. Sales tax was not added to the price of clothes and shoes for less than \$100.



Hoping for some scraps

Gulls swarm a boat in hopes of scavenging bait discarded by a lobster fisherman checking his traps off Portland, Maine.



She's unstoppable

Blind student Addie Hagen, 16, drives around a University of Maryland parking lot with Virginia Tech graduate Gregg Jannaman in College Park, Md. Hagen is wearing headphones for verbal instructions to turn right or left and a vest that vibrates to various degrees that advises her to apply the brakes.

Suspect in attempted baby abduction caught

TX FORT HOOD — Army officials say a suspect has been caught in the attempted abduction of a newborn boy from the hospital at Fort Hood.

A statement from Darnall Army Medical Center says information from callers, plus help from Killeen police, led to the suspect.

A spokeswoman for the military hospital did not immediately return a message from The Associated Press.

Officials say a woman wearing hospital scrubs took a newborn from a room, setting off the hospital's infant abduction warning alarm. The 2-day-old boy never left the ward. The woman fled.

Military authorities released hospital surveillance camera photos of the woman.

Michigan boy drowns at Ohio water park

OH SANDUSKY — Authorities say a 3-year-old Michigan boy who drowned at a northern Ohio water park was found face down in a children's pool.

Hassan Itani, of Dearborn, was pulled from the outdoor pool at Kalahari Resorts water park in Sandusky and taken to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

Capt. Paul Sigsworth of the Erie County Sheriff's office called the death a "tragic accident." Coroner Brian Baxter said the mother momentarily lost sight of her son, who didn't know how to swim and was playing with an older brother around the pool, which ranges from 3- to 4-feet in depth.

Kalahari spokeswoman Carrie Leum said in a statement that park employees were "deeply saddened" by the toddler's death.

Police: Melee breaks out at ransom exchange

CT GREENWICH — Police in Connecticut say a ransom exchange erupted into a melee involving 19 people in Greenwich when relatives wielding baseball bats tried to rescue alleged kidnapping victims.

Greenwich police say they arrested one alleged kidnapper after the incident in a shopping center parking lot. The suspect's name was not released.

The brawl followed an alert by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials to area police of a human smuggling investigation.

Police say relatives from Willimantic told investigators they were trying to recapture three family members who were kidnapped in Texas and brought to Connecticut for a ransom exchange.

Five people die in crash in eastern Missouri

MO FARMINGTON — Five people were killed in a head-on collision on a two-lane highway in rural eastern Missouri.

St. Francois County Coroner Jim Coplin said authorities found no skid marks at the crash site on Missouri Route 00 in an area surrounded by wooded farmland about 70 miles south of St. Louis. Coplin also says there were no witnesses to the accident.

Coplin says 59-year-old Bessie Barker, her husband, 57-year-old Walter Barker and 60-year-old Norma Holloway were returning home from a high school reunion when their car crossed the center line.

Fan who caught live bat at stadium being sought

NY BUFFALO — Catching a foul ball gets a baseball fan a round of applause. Catching a bat — a live bat — gets the attention of health officials.

The Erie County Health Department wants to find a man who caught one of the nocturnal mammals during a minor league baseball game in Buffalo. They want him to begin post-exposure vaccine treatment for rabies.

The man was in the stands at Coca-Cola Field during a game between the Buffalo Bisons and Pawtucket Red Sox when he reached out and grabbed a bat that had swooped into the downtown stadium.

County to upgrade dam with stimulus money

VA FAIRFAX — Fairfax County officials plan to rehabilitate an important dam in the Pohick Creek watershed using federal stimulus money.

Officials plan to sign a rehabilitation plan for the Lake Barton dam.

The Lake Barton dam is one of six dams in the watershed built between 1970 and 1985 to protect neighborhoods from flooding. The dam needs to be upgraded to comply with current standards and to extend its life for another 50 years.

The county is getting \$1.8 million in stimulus funds to help.

Taxi driver offers pay-what-you-can rides

VT ESSEX — When Eric Hagen started Recess Taxi in Essex, Vt., he took more questions than fares.

Everyone wanted to know if the sign reading "Pay What You Want!" on the back of his taxi was for real. It is, and Hagen says he hasn't been shortchanged yet.

Hagen, who works full time for the American Red Cross, has been offering his taxi service since June. He offers pay-what-you-can drinks and a free ride after six paid fares.

One musician gave him a CD, and another customer gave him a \$10 supermarket card.

USDA vows to help struggling dairy farms

DC WASHINGTON — The Agriculture Department is helping struggling dairy farmers by raising the price paid for milk and cheddar cheese through a dairy price support program.

The department estimates the temporary increases, which will be in place until October, will boost dairy farmers' overall revenue by \$243 million.

Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said that the price increase will provide immediate relief, helping to keep dairy farmers on the farm while they weather what he called "one of the worst dairy crises in decades."

Stories and photos from wire services

Horoscope

Keep your eyes peeled for strange evidence. The Aquarius lunar influences color the scene with bits of odd paraphernalia to pique our curiosity about what exactly occurred before we arrived. A random shoe, bits of confetti, a dirty glass ... the day after the full moon feels like the aftermath of a rowdy night, even when no rowdiness was had.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (AUGUST 6)

You have given your attention so generously to fulfill the needs of others. Here's wonderful news: This is your year to tend to the wishes and needs of your own heart. You'll take up an interest that you abandoned long ago and have immediate success. Fall brings abundant love and fun. January brings a windfall. Gemini and Aquarius adore you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). As you make your ambitious plans, do an inventory of your friends. They each have special talents, traits and resources that they would gladly share with you. Dare to ask more of them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). An issue that has been weighing on your mind will now be resolved with one decision. You've deliberated long enough. Now it's time to take swift, certain and inspired action.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Your feelings may be as normal and human as can be, but as they mix with your super-powered imagination, you are likely to experience them as extreme, extraordinary and distorted. A Capricorn helps you stay grounded.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Your business and social acumen is impressive. You have special luck in selling a product, attracting a new client or making a customer for life. Finances are steadily getting better.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). You believe in receiving value for your money and may have to fight for this now. Your best weapons will be po-

Holiday Mathis



life can get messy once in a while. To keep things in tiptop shape, do a maintenance check on the entities and relationships you usually take for granted.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). You'll do everything you can to make your environment a happy place, even if it costs a pretty penny. It's worthwhile since the way things look will affect your feelings. Beauty, color and functionality are important to you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). You can rely on your talent for motivating others. You'll sense what you need to say to make things happen. Keep your message brief and to the point. You are extremely effective.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Life hasn't given you everything you wanted, but you're starting to realize that what it has given you is more than enough. You find a creative new way to utilize your resources.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Though there are those around you who would protest, you have every right to be fastidious about structure, order and cleanliness. Someday, people around you will be happy for your influence in this regard.

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Difficulty: Hard

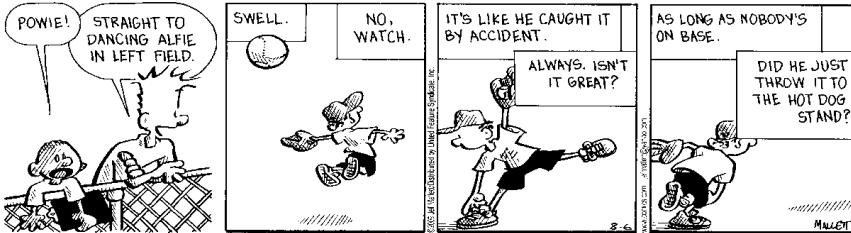
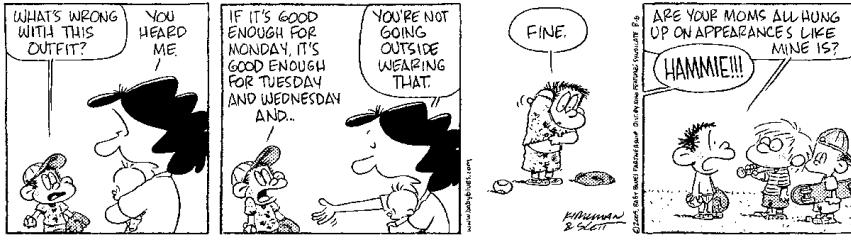
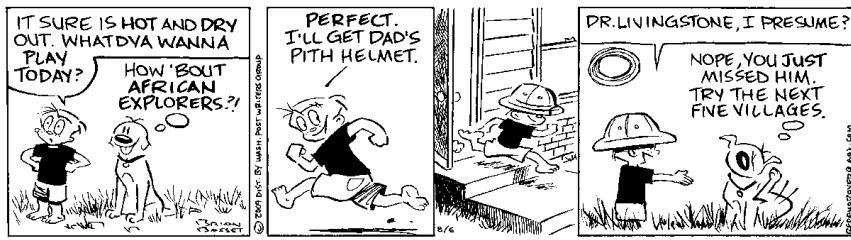
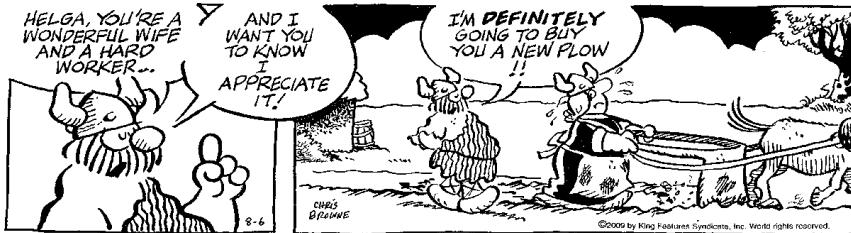
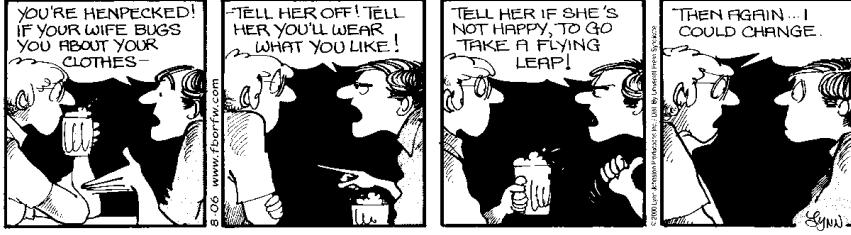
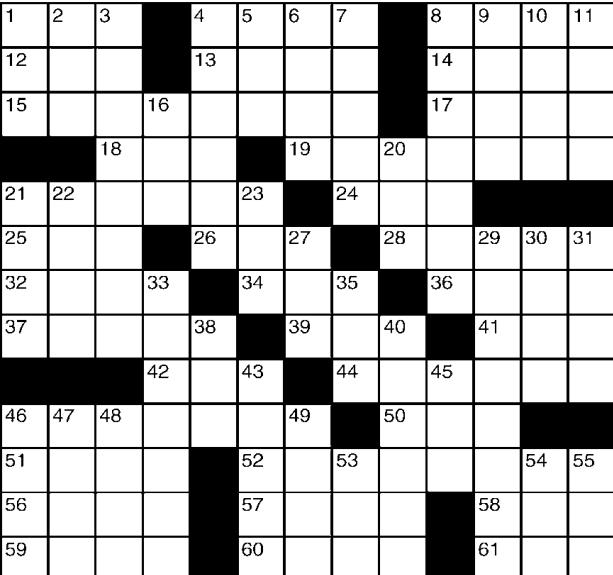
Fill in the boxes so that each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Yesterday's solution

6	2	7	4	8	1	9	3	
7	2	1				3		
4			5	6	2	7		
	1							
3			6	4	9			
2								
6	4		1	9				
8								
	8			5				

© Universal Press Syndicate



Frazz**Garfield****Baby Blues****Jump Start****Zits****Red & Rover****Hagar****Better or Worse****Eugene Sheffer Crossword****ACROSS**

59 Existed
60 Samples of wordplay
61 Lad

DOWN

1 Elmer, to Bugs
2 Prison
8 Tiers
12 Gabor or Peron
13 Relaxation
14 Send forth
15 "The island of romance," in song
17 Baseball team
18 Do sums
19 "Rockabye Baby" site
21 Russian wolfhound
24 Tend the lawn
25 Mound stat
26 — Miniver"
28 Cheesy chip
32 Dracula's usual target
34 Conger, e.g.
36 Reclined
37 Clan emblem
39 — tac-toe
41 Sleuth
42 Addressee
44 Procession
46 Constricting snakes
50 Moment
51 Timber wolf
52 Merchandisers' mailings
56 By word of mouth
57 First victim
58 Bumped into

Answer to Previous Puzzle

A	S	K		F	A	R	M	D	A	M	E
R	U	N		O	G	E		O	D	O	R
I	C	E		D	O	G	E	A	T	D	O
A	H	E	A	D		T	I	C			
B	E	E	S	L	O	B	B	Y			
U	N	D	E	R	O	D	G	M	I	R	E
F	I	E	S	U	P	R	A	R	I	G	
O	G	L	E	C	H	I	L	I	D	O	G
S	H	E	L	F		S	P	I	N		
D	O	G	P	A	D	D	L	E	O	D	E
I	R	I	S	D	O	I	N	O	L	D	
G	E	N	E	S	E	P	T		D	Y	E

8-6

CRYPTOQUIP

GCCNPZ JVXJ TYMGJCO IH

ACXMJNHMY-YIILNPZ HCOPG

JIKXD AOIMZVJ AXTL

BXPD HOIPK BBCIONCG.

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF TWO IDENTICAL LENGTHS OF STRONG CORD WERE TIED TOGETHER, I'D CALL THEM SIAMESE TWINES.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: J equals T

Parents need to show tough love

Dear Abby: I feel like my heart has been ripped out and stomped on. My 18-year-old daughter, "Emily," hooked up with a 27-year-old ex-convict ("Jerry") and had his baby three months ago. Although we disapproved of the relationship, we let him move into our home. A month later, I caught him with another girl and my daughter ended their relationship.

Last week, Emily announced that Jerry wants her back and has admitted all his wrongs. Abby, she wants us to let him move back in! My husband refuses to support them any longer. Emily has now chosen Jerry and says she is taking the baby, even though she has no place to go because he's still living with the other girl. Neither of them can afford an apartment.

I feel if I don't go along with it I am throwing my innocent grandchild out into the street, and it

Dear Abby



breaks my heart. Is tough love the right answer?

— Crying In Virginia

Dear Crying: Yes, so call her bluff. Tough love would be better than allowing your daughter to blackmail you, which is what she's attempting to do.

I seriously doubt that Jerry will give up a sure thing and a roof over his head to build a life with your daughter. When she wakes up to that fact, I predict she'll be back on your doorstep — so be prepared.

— Dear Abby

My husband's grandson just graduated from the eighth grade. Because he lives in another part of the state we were unable to attend the graduation, but we sent him a graduation card with \$5 enclosed.

My husband's daughter called to acknowledge the card "for" her son. Then she asked if my husband was having financial difficulties because he sent only \$5 while some of her friends gave

her son \$50. She said we should have sent more. My husband was so shocked by her insensitivity that he hung up on her.

His daughter did not call or send a card on Father's Day. However, today we received a card from his grandson thanking us for the \$5 and saying if we had dug deeper and added \$1, he could have bought a slice of pizza. Abby, how do we respond to these two?

— Hurt Grandparents,

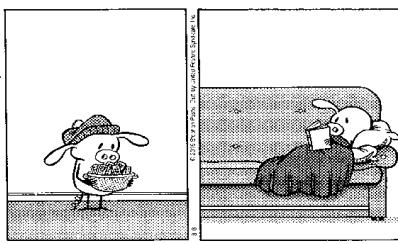
Anaheim, Calif.

Dear Hurt Grandparents: Unbelievable. Your husband was kind to send the boy anything in addition to the card. His daughter's response shows where her priorities are. I'll give her son this: He did acknowledge the gift — but he should have stopped at thank you and omitted the snide remark.

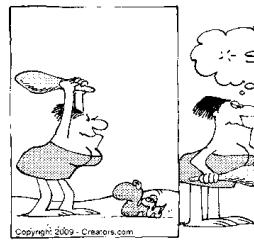
How should the two of you respond? By keeping the lines of communication open and your wallet closed.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby> Universal Press Syndicate

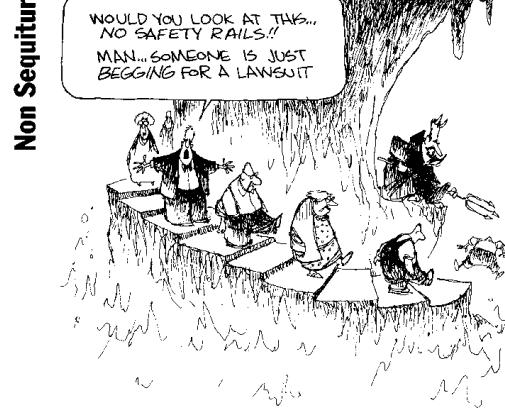
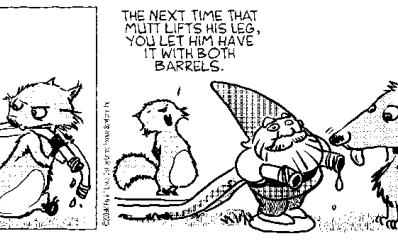
Pearls Before Swine



B.C.



Pardon My Planet Over The Hedge



JUMBLE

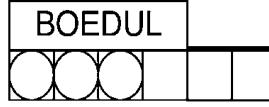
Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



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NEW Jumble iPhone App go to: www.bit.ly/15QkFq



THAT SCRABLED WORD GAME

by Mike Argirion and Jeff Knurek



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

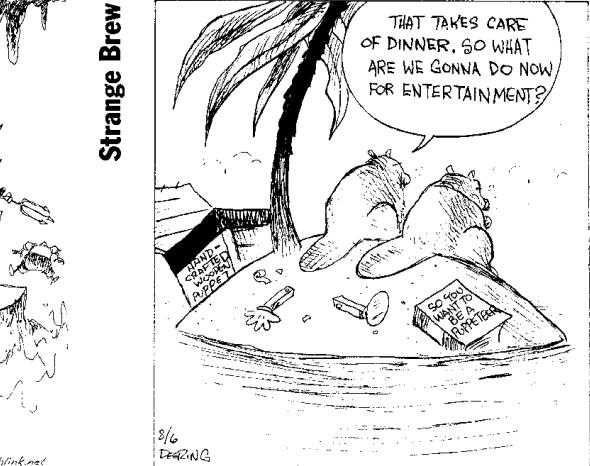


(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's

Jumbles: WHISK POKER WEEVIL PLURAL
Answer: An important exercise for a dieter —
WILL POWER

Speed Bump



Strange Brew



AFRTS Television ScheduleUpdated sports listings are available on AFN's Web site at <http://myafn.dodmedia.osd.mil/>

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5, 2009

	(AFN-ATLANTIC)	(AFN-FAMILY)	(AFN-MOVIE)	(AFN-NEWS)	(AFN-PACIFIC)	(PENTAGON)	(SPECTRUM)	(AFN-SPORTS)	(XTRA)
15:00	Sesame Street	The Brady Bunch	(15) Movie "Biloxi Blues" (1988, Comedy) Matthew Broderick. A Brooklyn writer goes to boot camp.	The Rachel Maddow Show	Days of our Lives	Fit For Duty	Landscape Smart	SportsCenter	(2:00) Sports
15:30		The Brady Bunch			Around the Services	Battleground	Color Splash		
16:00	The View	Movie "Toy Story" (1995, Adventure) Voices of Tom Hanks, Tim Allen.		Tavis Smiley	Oprah Winfrey	The American Veteran	Lost Worlds "The Real Dracula"	MLB Baseball Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati Reds. From Great American Ball Park in Cincinnati. (Same-day Tape Subject to Blackout)	MTV Hits Playlist
16:30				At the Movies	Nightly Business Report	Recon Revisited	King of the Hill		X Play
17:00	Dr. Phil			Nightline	Wheel of Fortune	Around the Services	Downrange	That '70s Show	Punk'd
17:30		SpongeBob SquarePants		Entertainment Tonight	Jeopardy!	Today	Daily Show-Jon Stewart	The Simpsons	The Simpsons
18:00	Judge Alex	Robot Boy		What It Takes	The O'Reilly Factor	World News-Gibson	Ft. Hood on Track	Family Guy	Family Guy
18:30	The King of Queens	Kim Possible		Entertainment Tonight	Countdown With Keith Olbermann	Around the Services	Today's Air Force	The Colbert Report	UFC Unleashed
19:00	Access Hollywood	The Fairly OddParents			Today	America's Got Talent Ten	Briefing Encore	One Tree Hill "Hate Is Safer Than Love"	
19:30	Judge Judy	Mucha Lucha				of the top 40 contestants perform.	Fit For Duty	SportsCenter	
20:00	The Young and the Restless	Hannah Montana					Battleground	Ugly Betty "The Fall Issue"	Quick Pitch
20:30		Sonny With a Chance					Recon		Luke's Parental Advisory
21:00	General Hospital	American Dreams "False Start"					Big Brother 11	Around the Services	Baldwin Hills
21:30								Desperate Housewives "Home Is the Place"	Making the Band 4
22:00	Days of our Lives	Beverly Hills, 90210						Pacific Report	SportsNation
22:30		"Ashes to Ashes"							
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	7th Heaven "It Takes Two, Baby"							Attack of the Show!
23:30									

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2009

00:00	Wheel of Fortune	The Fairly OddParents	(10:50) Movie The Full Monty	MSNBC Live	Late Show-Letterman	EXchange on Air	Late Night With Jimmy Fallon	SportsCenter	X Play
00:30	Jeopardy!	Mucha Lucha	(-35) Movie "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" (1991)		The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Fit For Duty	The Starter Wife A near-death experience. (Part 2 of 6)	MLB Baseball St. Louis Cardinals at New York Mets. From Citi Field in Flushing, N.Y. (Subject to Blackout)	Punk'd
1:00	Headline News	Hannah Montana	Arnold Schwarzenegger, Linda Hamilton. Cyborgs battle over a youth who holds the key to the future.		Today	Today's Air Force	Around the Services		The Simpsons
1:30	ATS/AFN Report	Sonny With a Chance			Judge Judy	Ghost Whisperer "All Ghosts Lead to Grandview"	This Week in the Pentagon		Family Guy
2:00	America's Got Talent Ten	American Dreams "False Start"			CSI: NY "The Dove Commission"	Downrange			UFC Unleashed
2:30					MSNBC Live	Oprah Winfrey	The Grill Sergeants State Dept Briefing		Luke's Parental Advisory
3:00		Beverly Hills, 90210	(-10) Movie "Friday Night Lights" (2004, Drama) Billy Bob Thornton, Derek Luke, Jay Hernandez. A football coach leads high-school players in Texas.		Studio B With Shepard Smith	Dr. Phil	Battleground	Seinfeld "The Secretary"	Baldwin Hills
3:30		"Ashes to Ashes"			The Situation Room With Wolf Blitzer	Final Score	Around the Services	Friends (Part 1 of 2)	Making the Band 4
4:00	Big Brother 11	7th Heaven "It Takes Two, Baby"			Glenn Beck	Headline News	Downrange	Conan O'Brien	College Football Live
4:30						Good Morning America	Essence of Emeril	Daily Show-Jon Stewart	SportsNation Hosts Colin Cowherd and Michelle Beadle.
5:00	Headline News	Teletubbies					Around the Services	Simply Delicioso	Cowherd and Michelle Beadle.
5:30	The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Bear in the Big Blue House	(-22) Movie "Phone Booth" (2002, Suspense) Colin Farrell, Kiefer Sutherland.					Pardon the Interruption	Attack of the Show!
6:00		Sesame Street							
6:30	Late Show With David Letterman	Peep-Big World							
7:00		At the Movies							
7:30	The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Max & Ruby							
8:00		Go, Diego, Go!							
8:30	Judge Judy	The Backyardigans							
9:00	CSI: NY "The Dove Commission"	Rags	Movie "13 Going on 30" (2004) Jennifer Garner, Mark Ruffalo. An uncool girl magically becomes a successful adult.						
9:30		Aladdin							
10:00	Oprah Winfrey	Bratz							
10:30		Animaniacs							
11:00	Dr. Phil	Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!							
11:30		Scooby-Doo, Where Are You!							
12:00	CBS Evening News	SpongeBob SquarePants							
12:30	ESPN	SpongeBob SquarePants							
13:00	Prime News Tonight	Tutenstein							
13:30		Super Why!							
14:00	NBC Nightly News	Pinky Dinky Doo							
14:30	World News-Gibson	Hip Hop Harry							
15:00	Sesame Street	The Brady Bunch							
15:30		The Brady Bunch							
16:00	The View	Movie "Cheaper by the Dozen" (2003, Comedy)							
16:30		Steve Martin. A man must handle the chaos surrounding his 12 children.							
17:00	Dr. Phil	That '70s Show: The E! True Hollywood Story							
17:30									
18:00	Judge Alex	Robot Boy							
18:30	The King of Queens	Kim Possible							
19:00	Access Hollywood	The Fairly OddParents							
19:30	Judge Judy	The X's							
20:00	The Young and the Restless	Hannah Montana	Movie "The Interpreter" (2005, Suspense) Nicole Kidman, Sean Penn, Catherine Keener. A U.N. translator overhears an assassination plot.						
20:30		Wizards of Waverly Place							
21:00	General Hospital	Made "Triathlete" Triathlete.							
21:30									
22:00	Days of our Lives	Beverly Hills, 90210 "Necessity Is a Mother"	(-20) Movie "Fun With Dick & Jane" (2005, Comedy) Jim Carrey, Tea Leoni, Alex Baldwin.						
22:30									
23:00	Oprah Winfrey	7th Heaven "Drunk Like Me"	Movie "Twins" (1988, Comedy) Arnold Schwarzenegger.						
23:30									

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7, 2009

00:00	Wheel of Fortune	The Fairly OddParents	(11:00) Movie "Twins" (1988)	MSNBC Live	Late Show-Letterman	This Week in the Pentagon	Late Night With Jimmy Fallon	SportsCenter	X Play
00:30	Jeopardy!	The X's	Arnold Schwarzenegger.		The Late Late Show With Craig Ferguson	Fit For Duty	Burn Notice	SportsCenter	Punk'd
1:00	Headline News	Hannah Montana			Judge Judy	Around the Services			The Simpsons
1:30	ATS/AFN Report	Wizards of Waverly Place			Countdown With Keith Olbermann	America's Got Talent Elimination; Mariah Carey.			Family Guy
2:00	America's Got Talent	Made "Triathlete" Triathlete.			Today	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition The team improves the home of a family operating an animal sanctuary.			Real World/Road Rules Challenge
2:30						Recon Revisited			Busted
3:00	Extreme Makeover: Home Edition	Beverly Hills, 90210 "Necessity Is a Mother"				Around the Services			The Real World JD starts a new war in the house.
3:30						Private Practice "Home-ward Bound"			
4:00						Pacific Report	America's Next Top Model "The Girl Who Marks Her Territory" A revealing photo-shoot on a Sunset Strip rooftop.	MLB Baseball Milwaukee Brewers at Los Angeles Dodgers. From Dodger Stadium in Los Angeles. (Same-day Tape Subject to Blackout)	
4:30						Briefing Encore	Recon Revisited		
5:00	Headline News	Teletubbies				The Tonight Show With Conan O'Brien	Friends (Part 2 of 2)		
5:30	Tonight Show-Conan O'Brien	Bear in the Big Blue House	(-20) Fun With Dick & Jane			Army Newswatch	Daily Show-Jon Stewart		
						Late Show-Letterman	Downrange		
							The Colbert Report		

News

MIDDLE EAST HEADLINES

Alleged serial rapist barred from work at U.S. bases in

SCOREBOARD

Pacific scoreboard for the April 8 edition

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STRIPES CLASSIFIED

Computers 360	Furniture 510	Household Items 560	Outdoor Living 775	Pets 820	Photography 830	Homes/Condos - US 868	Miscellaneous 1040	
Yokota, Japan - Custom computer selling as whole for parts or whatever, not built for a gaming computer but still fast. Complete minus hard drives asking \$100. Please email megreenparts@yahoo.com	Atsugi - Sandy/cream leather loveseat and two matching chairs from Italy. In good condition. Asking: \$300.00 USD or best offer. Contact: Emanuela at 264-7802 or 08036018265.	Yokota, Japan - Lots of different kitchen items--must go now brand new-Blue color-hard plastic. SET #1: 6 plates, 6 bowls, 6-forks, 6-spoons, 6-knives, Pour-Alt Pitcher, 4-cups-\$15 brand new-Le Crescent Enamel Stoneware Lasagna sized. Baking Pan- bed, bath, & beyond bought on. Kiwi color Paid \$65. Asking \$25 OXO set includes: Large Fruit/Salad Spinner, Soft Handled set of measuring cups w/ egg yolk separate, set of 6 measuring spoons all matching. Paid over \$45. Asking\$12.50 Tupperware Beverage Dispensers w/ Spout in front-\$8.50 each (HAVE 2) - Small Storage Container-\$2.50 Please call 916-473-4484	Yokota, Japan - Fence for Sale - Must Sell! 2-year-old cedar fence - 55 linear feet including Tori Gate excellent condition! Asking \$300.00. Contact me at e a c d @ m a c . c o m or 090-3961-9777 or 1-407-373-1352	Yokota, Japan - FREE ferrets and all their stuff we are at Camp Zama and we have been unable to have. They love to play but sleep a lot. The female is very loving and lazy. The female is smart and fun to watch play. They are very easy to care for and only need baths once a month or so. They have birth certificates and shot records are up to date. They have been neutered and must be spayed removed. They come with cage, food, litter, toys and lots of other stuff. They range from 180-500 each off post now. We need to get rid of them ASAP. One of the kids I watch the allergic and so the wife of the couple that took them yesterday. PLEASE call Jon or me at SHA home phone 267-6601 or 09065600442 or 09091026148	Yokota, Japan - Casio Exilim 8.1 Digital Camera - Case, Battery, LCD - 8.1 Mega Pixels, 2.8 In LCD Display, EXILIM Engine 2.0 image processing module, Anti-Shake DSP, Direct Print Capable, Rapid Flash function, 190 shots on a full charge, Face Recognition Technology, 1.0 Second Encrypted Quick Responseless Data Storage, Flash, 10MB Built-in and SD/SDHC/MMC Expandable Memory, Ultra Flat Design Constructed from Stainless Steel, Innovative H.264 Movies, YouTube Capture Mode, 3 x Optical Zoom / 4 x Digital Zoom, Weight: 4.5 Oz Asking \$100 Please Call 1-214-261-6424 or e mail strbriggs1985@yahoo.comph	I have a Condo for sale in central Ft Myers in South West Florida. It is a 1 bedroom and 1 bath freshly painted with woods floors and all appliance are include. The Condo is offer at \$37,500.00 there is a pool and tennis court. I am asking \$35,000.00. I include water, trash and building insurance. You only have to have contents Insurance. About 800 Sq Ft. Contact John M Dupree B CO 602 ASB Unit 15203 Box 522 APO AP 96271, 940-220-7121, Korea Cell 011-82-10-2402-0052	Yokota, Japan - Men in Black 2 Japanese region this is an almost new DVD of Men in Black 2. I bought it but forgot I already own it. I opened it once. It is a Japanese version so it is region 2. It has Japanese subtitles, English subtitles, Japanese language & English language. You can choose. This is perfect for you with Japanese wives like myself I purchased it for 2,500yen from Tsutaya off base. You can have it today for 1,000 yen. Please call 090-9806-3464 or email chris_japan03@yahoo.com	
Yokota, Japan - GPS JR Road Portable Navigation System Windows powered, English GPS Navigation System for use in Japan. Searches by Address, Station, Markin Points, Points of Interest, Phone Number, & Map Code (English, Japanese, Chinese Capability) 4" LCD Screen with touch panel speaker Paid \$500 asking \$450. Please call 210-547-9918 or email the pamperedstamper4u@yahoo.com	Yokota, Japan - Desk for Sale Just PCS'd in and got my TMO so my desk is apart. Asking \$50 email unevolv08@live.com home or call 646-3810-011 cell phone: 080-3414-6251	Furniture/Appiances 511						
Yokota, Japan - Kenmore Washer and Dryer for \$325! PC'sing back to the states? Buy a washer and dryer here and have TMO ship it for you. Both are in awesome shape. I did short tour before here and forgot I had them in my H-HGs. My apartment has a Japanese Washer/Dryer already installed. Call me at 090-4227-5269 or email me at brandon.chamberlain@yokota.af.mil	Yokota, Japan - Like New AVOL 21" TV (ACT2100H) TV has NTSC and ATSC tuners and is dual voltage. Has rear A/V and coaxial jacks. Comes with remote. More info on the picture asking \$120. Please call 301-638-9333	Home Electronics 570	Yokota, Japan - MUST SELL NOW! \$1000. Fence for \$150-must sell! 2-yr-old cedar fence - 55 linear feet including Tori Gate. Excellent condition! 2-yr-old cedar fence -- 55 linear feet including Tori Gate. Excellent condition! Contact me at e a c d @ m a c . c o m or 090-3961-9777 or 1-407-373-1352	Yokota, Japan - Free Dog Owner can no longer care for dog due to personal health. I'm assisting him to find a new home for his dog. Needs shots. Call (323)338-7553 or email mdfisherman@hotmail.com	Pet Accessories 822	Yokota, Japan - Light blue Canon Camera-Easy 2 use 10m.p. My daughter is selling her light blue canon camera. There's absolutely nothing wrong w/ it. We kept the org. box, paperwork etc. The SD card that came w/ the camera is still sealed up-board new w/ case. Plus we are also going to include another SD card1 GB. Very simple to use! 10 mega pixels, 4x optical zoom, optical image stabilizer, large LCD screen, face detection, digital III, red eye correction, movie features. She is only asking \$100 for this. If not home, please leave message 916-473-4488 thank you. Must Go Now!	Yokota, Japan - Must SELL NOW-DVD movies & Music CD's DVD movies-\$3.50 each Fantastic 4-PART 1 Fantastic 4-Rise of the Silver Surfer PART 2, Barbie and the Nutcracker, Iron Man, We Were Soldiers, No Reservations, First Daughters, Akeelah and the Bee, Ladder 49, The Patriot, Extended Cut, new release-Storm Cell Please call 916-473-4488	Yokota, Japan - Miss DVD's for sale Short Circuit (new still wrapped) \$10.00 the world is not enough \$5 King Kong \$5 ER Season 5 \$15 Take all for \$30 Please call 090-9806-3464 or e mail chris_japan03@yahoo.com
Yokota, Japan - Used Toshiba Portege M200 Tablet for sale. Used condition but has many upgrades. Comes with Windows XP Pro, Office 2007, and Symantec Anti-Virus and many other useful programs has Pentium M 1.6GHz Processor, CD/DVD-RW external drive, 1GB of RAM, 802.11n NIC, 120GB HDD, 12in screen. Have a camera, case and wireless mouse included. Great system for traveling. asking \$400 o b o E - M a i l tsather31@gmail.com Pictures are STOCK pictures, not actual system.	Yokota, Japan - Toy box has a blue lid and tan/white. Like 3ftx2ft asking \$20. Please email megreenparts@yahoo.com	Household Items 560	Yokota, Japan - Looking for 42" or bigger LCD/Plasma TV: Looking for a second hand LCD/Plasma TV 42" or bigger, if you have one for sale please let me know. Please call 080-5098-8728	Yokota, Japan - Nintendo Wii Package - Like New - Includes Games! Like NEW! Includes Sports. Love the Wii, but I do not have enough money to enjoy it! Includes original packaging and Wii Sports \$175 and it's all yours! Please call 813-200-9377 or email judd-bean@gmail.com. Thank you and make it a great day!	Pets 820	Misawa, Japan - Free dog (Shiba): I'm looking for a good home for my dog Sam. He is Shiba, loving, cuddly, and cute. He is great with kids and other pets. Please email sarah.galloway@misawa.af.mil	Yokota - For Sale - Large Dog Kennel 39x30x22. \$35. If interested please call 763-354-3551 and ask for Mike.	Yokota, Japan - Jon & Kate plus Eight - DVD - Seasons 1, 2, un Like new Jon & Kate plus 8 Seasons 1 & 2, and Season 3 DVD packages! These cost about \$25/each new. Get it here for half-price! Asking \$25 for all 5 seasons. Please call 813-200-9377 or email judd-bean@gmail.com. Thanks and make it a great day!
Atsugi - Black leather like recliner with ottoman. Excellent condition. \$50. Call 264-7973 or email ukandusa@hotmail.com.	Yokota, Japan - Toy box has a blue lid and tan/white. Like 3ftx2ft asking \$20. Please email megreenparts@yahoo.com							

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SCOREBOARD

Sports on AFN

Wednesday

AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—MLB: Chicago Cubs at Cincinnati (dld).
AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—MLB: L.A. Angels at Chicago White Sox (dld).

Thursday

AFN-Sports, 1 a.m.—MLB: St. Louis at Detroit.
AFN-Sports, 8 a.m.—MLB: Boston at N.Y. Yankees.
AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.—MLB: Minnesota at Cleveland.
AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.—MLB: Texas at Oakland.
AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—MLB: N.Y. Yankees at Toronto (dld).
AFN-Sports, 9 p.m.—MLB: Milwaukee at L.A. Dodgers (dld).

Friday

AFN-Sports, 2 a.m.—MLB: Baltimore at Pittsburgh.
AFN-Sports, 8 a.m.—MLB: Boston at N.Y. Yankees.
AFN-Xtra, 8 a.m.—MLB: Arizona at San Diego.
AFN-Xtra, 11 a.m.—MLB: N.Y. Mets at San Diego.
AFN-Sports, 4 p.m.—MLB: Seattle at Kansas City (dld).
AFN-Sports, 11 p.m.—MLB: N.Y. Mets at San Diego (dld).

All times are Japan and Korea Standard; (dld) indicates delayed broadcast. All listings are subject to change. Visit www.myafn.net for more information.

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Indiana	15	4	.789	—
Connecticut	10	9	.526	5
Washington	10	9	.526	5
Atlanta	10	10	.500	5½
Chicago	10	10	.500	5½
Detroit	6	10	.375	7½
New York	5	12	.333	8½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Phoenix	15	6	.714	—
Seattle	12	7	.632	2
Minnesota	10	10	.500	4½
San Antonio	8	10	.444	5½
Los Angeles	6	10	.375	6½
Sacramento	5	16	.238	10

Saturday's games

Atlanta 89, New York 83
 Chicago 84, Connecticut 72
 Phoenix 87, Minnesota 74
 Seattle 85, San Antonio 82, OT
 Los Angeles 59, Sacramento 56

Sunday's games

Indiana 87, Washington 79
 Connecticut 83, Detroit 65

Monday's games

No games scheduled

Tuesday's games

San Antonio at Los Angeles
 New York at Detroit
 Phoenix at Seattle

Wednesday's game

Chicago at Indiana

Thursday's games

Atlanta at San Antonio
 Seattle at Los Angeles

Boxing

Fight schedule

Aug. 7

At Buffalo Bill's Star Arena, Primm, Nev., Alfredo Angulo, Coachella, Calif., vs. Gabriel Rosado, Philadelphia, 10, junior middleweights.

Aug. 8

At Cordoba, Argentina, Jorge Rodrigo Barrios, Argentina, vs. Moises Castro, Nicaragua, 10, lightweights; Marcos Hector Vergara, Argentina, vs. Luis Alberto Arrieta, Argentina, 10, light middleweights; Israel Hector Enrique Perez, Argentina, vs. Jhonny Antequera, Venezuela, 10, super featherweights.

Aug. 15

At the Gold Coast Arena, Biloxi, Miss., Roy Jones Jr., Pensacola, Fla., vs. Jeff Lacy, St. Petersburg, Fla., 12, light heavyweights; Danny Green, Australia, vs. Julio Cesar Dominguez, Argentina, 12, cruiserweights; Verquan Kimbrough, Pittsburgh, vs. Mike Anchondo, La Puente, Calif., 10, lightweights.

At Hard Rock Hotel and Casino, Las Vegas, Nonito Donaire, San Leandro, Calif., vs. Rafael Concepcion, Panama, 12, for the interim WBA super flyweight title; Steven Luevano, La Puenta, Calif., vs. Bernabe Concepcion, Philippines, 12, for Luevano's WBO featherweight title; Mark Meliggen, Philippines, vs. Michael Rosales, 10, Mexico, super lightweights; Anthony Peterson, Washington, vs. Luis Arceo, Mexico, 10, lightweights.

Aug. 21

At the Orleans Hotel & Casino, Las Vegas, Oliver McCall, Martinsville, Va., vs. Franklin Lawrence, Indianapolis, 12, for McCall's IBA Intercontinental heavyweight title.

Aug. 22

At Toyota Center, Houston, Malcolm Klassen, South Africa, vs. Robert Guerrero, Gilroy, Calif., 12, for Klassen's IBF super featherweight title; Juan Diaz, Houston, vs. Paul Malignaggi, Brooklyn, N.Y., 12, light welterweights.

Tennis

Odlum Brown Van Open

Monday
At Hollyburn Country Club
West Vancouver, British Columbia
Purse: \$175,000
Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles

First Round

Prakash Amritraj, India, def. Ivan Dodig, Croatia, 7-5, 6-3.
 Marinko Matosevic (8), Australia def. Michael Yani, United States, 6-7 (4), 6-4, 7-6 (2).
 Ryan Sweeting (5), United States, def. Andrea Stoppini, Italy, 6-4, 6-3.
 Alex Bogdanovic, Britain, def. Igor Sijsling, Netherlands, 6-2, 5-7, 7-5.
 Sergei Bubka, Ukraine, def. Alex Kuznetsov, United States, 6-4, 6-4.
 Philip Bestor, Canada, def. Koen Hof, United States, 6-4, 6-6, 6-2.
 Kyu Tae Im, Korea, def. Rik De Voest, South Africa, 3-6, 6-4, 6-3.
 Scoville Jenkins, United States, def. Rajeev Ram (1), United States, 7-6 (4), 6-4.

L.A. Women's Championships

Monday

At The Home Depot Center

Carson, Calif.

Purse: \$700,000 (Premier)

Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles

First Round

Alisa Kleibmanova, Russia, def. Alla Kudryavtseva, Russia, 6-1, 6-3.
 Ai Sugiyama, Japan, def. Carly Gullickson, United States, 6-3, 6-1.

Vania King, United States, def. Sybille Bammer, Austria, 6-3, 6-2.

Lucie Safarova, Czech Republic, def. Kaia Kanepi (15), Estonia, 6-3, 7-6 (4).

Yanina Wickmayer, Belgium, def. Nicole Vaidisova, Czech Republic, 6-1, 6-1.

Jill Craybas, United States, def. Francesca Schiavone, Italy, 7-6 (7), 6-2.

Shahar Peer, Israel, def. Anastasia Rodionova, Russia, 7-5, 4-1, retired.

Elena Vesnina, Russia, def. Agnes Szavay, Hungary, 6-1, 6-0.

Peng Shuai, China, def. Michaela Krajicek, Netherlands, 6-3, 6-7 (4), 6-3.

Anna Chakvetadze, Russia, def. Virginie Razzano (14), France, 7-6 (5), 6-3.

Flavia Pennetta (10), Italy, def. Varvara Lepchenko, United States, 6-2, 5-7, 6-0.

Alona Bondarenko, Ukraine, def. Meghann Shaughnessy, United States, 3-6, 6-3, 6-3.

Maria Sharapova, Russia, def. Jarmila Groth, Australia, 6-0, 6-4.

CoCo Vandeweghe, United States, def. Tatjana Garbin, Italy, 6-4, 6-4.

Legg Mason Classic

Monday

At William H.G. Fitzgerald Tennis Center

Washington

Purse: \$1.402 million (WT500)

Surface: Hard-Outdoor

Singles

First Round

Mikhail Youzhny, Russia, def. Robert Kendrick, United States, 7-5, 3-6, 6-1.

Yen-hsun Lin, Taiwan, def. Michael Russell, United States, 4-6, 6-1, 7-5.

Philipp Petzschner, Germany, def. Teimuraz Gabashvili, Russia, 4-6, 5-3, 6-4.

Somdev Devvarman, India, def. Yuichi Sugita, Japan, 6-0, 7-6 (7), 6-3.

Frank Dancic, Canada, def. Santiago Giraldo, Spain, 6-4, 6-3.

Lleyton Hewitt, Australia, def. Donald Young, United States, 7-5, 6-2.

Alejandro Falla, Colombia, def. Jesse Witten, United States, 6-1, 6-4.

Marc Gicquel, France, def. Jerzy Janowicz, Poland, 7-5, 2-6, 6-4.

John Isner, United States, def. Andrey Golubev, Kazakhstan, 7-6 (8), 6-3.

Igor Kunitsyn, Russia, def. Frederico Gil, Portugal, 7-6 (1), 6-4.

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Sports briefs

Ohio pitcher accused of beaning fan is convicted

The Associated Press

DAYTON, Ohio — An Ohio judge has convicted a minor league pitcher of injuring a fan when he threw a baseball during an on-field melee in Dayton last year.

Montgomery County Common Pleas Court Judge Connie Price found 22-year-old Julio Castillo guilty Tuesday of felonious assault causing serious physical injury.

Castillo, of the Dominican Republic, was pitching for the Peoria Chiefs against the Dayton Dragons when the bench-clearing brawl broke out. Castillo threw a ball that hit a fan in the head and caused a concussion.

During last month's trial, Castillo testified that he threw the ball downward toward a dugout to try to keep opposing players from rushing the field and was not aiming at anyone.

■ All-Star center fielder Carlos Beltran shagged fly balls Monday for the first time since going on the disabled list with a bruised right knee, part of another encouraging day for the injury-riddled New York Mets.

Billy Wagner, out all season following elbow ligament replacement surgery, worked another perfect inning in his second minor league rehab appearance and first baseman Carlos Delgado took batting practice on the field for the first time since hip surgery.

Beltran said he fielded about 30 fly balls and the bone bruise on his knee bothered him twice, but with much less pain than before.

Delgado had surgery on his right hip in mid-May. The slugger said he probably will run Tuesday but there is no timetable for his return.

■ Astros ace Roy Oswalt will skip his next scheduled start because he still felt pain in his lower back after a bullpen session Monday.

Forced to leave his previous outing because of an irritated disk, Oswalt was scheduled to start Tuesday night against San Francisco. After throwing 30 to 40 pitches in the bullpen, he wasn't ready to go.

Oswalt said he would meet with doctors on Tuesday and throw another bullpen session on Wednesday.

Oswalt (6-4, 3.61 ERA) left in the second inning of Houston's 11-6 victory in Chicago on July 28.

Oswalt is due to start again on Saturday against Milwaukee. General manager Ed Wade left open the possibility that Oswalt could go on the disabled list, retroactive to July 28.

NBA fines three teams

NEW YORK — The NBA has fined three teams an undisclosed amount for leaking details of their schedules before the league released them.

The Cleveland Cavaliers, Houston Rockets and Minnesota Timberwolves were penalized, an official with knowledge of the decisions told The Associated Press



ANDRE PENNER/AP

Ferrari driver Felipe Massa smiles Monday after arriving at a hospital in Sao Paulo. Massa underwent surgery on multiple skull fractures after being injured in a crash during practice.

on Monday. The official requested anonymity because the fines weren't publicly announced.

The NBA will release its 2009-10 schedule on Tuesday afternoon. The league forbids teams to release any details before then.

AFL on brink of folding

The Arena Football League is on the brink of folding and declaring bankruptcy, an inglorious end for the 22-year-old indoor league that has suffered through a year of turmoil.

James Guidry, the regional director of the AFL players association, told The Associated Press on Tuesday that it "seems to be inevitable at this point" that the AFL will soon announce that it has ceased operations. Guidry, speaking by telephone, said the players association will accept the owners' decision.

"We're waiting to see if this decision has been finalized by the AFL," Guidry said.

The AFL suspended play for the 2009 season, but some owners expressed hope that the league would return in some form in 2010.

Massa leaves hospital, arrives home in Brazil

SAO PAULO — Ferrari driver Felipe Massa, recovering from a life-threatening crash sustained nine days earlier in qualifying for the Hungarian Grand Prix, arrived home in Brazil on Monday.

Massa waved to photographers just before being admitted to the Albert Einstein Hospital in South America's biggest city, where he is expected to stay for at least two days to undergo further exams.

Massa arrived Monday evening on a private jet accompanied by his wife Raffaela, who is six months pregnant with their first child, and family doctor Dino Altmann. He was transported to the hospital from the airport on a helicopter.

Before leaving the AEK military hospital where he was being treated in Budapest, Massa spoke

publicly for the first time after the accident that prompted surgery on multiple skull fractures. The crash occurred after he was hit in the helmet by a loose part from another car on Aug. 25.

Fever's Griffith retires

INDIANAPOLIS — Two-time Olympic gold medalist Yolanda Griffith is ending her playing career after 11 seasons in the WNBA.

The 39-year-old Indiana Fever forward announced her retirement Tuesday, saying she plans to begin coaching after this season. The seven-time WNBA All-Star suffered a career-ending tear of her left Achilles' tendon on June 9.

She had earlier said 2009 would be her last as a player, but the injury cut her season short.

Quebec coroner's office wants Gatti files from Brazil

TORONTO — The coroner's office in Quebec wants Brazilian authorities to share their files from boxer Arturo Gatti's initial autopsy and the police investigation into his death.

Genevieve Guilbault, a spokeswoman for the coroner's office, said Monday that the office had asked Canada's federal government to get involved and request documents from the first autopsy and other files describing the scene where Gatti was found.

Gatti's death in Brazil on July 11 was ruled a suicide last week, after Brazilian police initially said the Canadian boxer and two-time world champion had been slain and that his wife, Amanda Rodrigues, was the prime suspect.

Gatti's friends and relatives rejected that conclusion, and Quebec authorities completed a second autopsy on the boxer's corpse Saturday.

Guilbault said a report on the second autopsy would not be issued until her office reviewed the Brazilian records.

Until Thursday, police in the northeastern Brazilian city of Recife considered Gatti's death a homicide and held Rodrigues in custody. Now, police say the boxer, who retired in 2007, hanged himself with a handbag strap from a staircase column at an upscale resort.

The second autopsy performed at the request of Gatti's family has not ruled out homicide in his death, according to a pathologist who was hired by the family to witness Saturday's procedure.

Michael Baden, the former chief pathologist for the New York state police and host of HBO cable TV show "Autopsy," said that an autopsy performed by Quebec coroners found that the investigation by Brazilian authorities was incomplete.

In other boxing news:

■ Boxer Floyd Mayweather Jr.'s uncle and trainer, Roger Mayweather, was arrested at a Las Vegas apartment in an attack on a female boxer he once trained, authorities said Tuesday.

An aide to Clark County District Attorney David Roger said criminal charges were pending

following the Sunday morning arrest of Roger Mayweather.

Mayweather, 48, was arrested on felony coercion and battery-strangulation charges and later freed from the Clark County jail on \$13,000 bail, said Detective Ramon Denby, a police department spokesman. A date for an initial court appearance was not immediately available, and it was unclear if Mayweather had a lawyer, police and court officials said.

Coyotes' auction delayed

PHOENIX — A bankruptcy judge has moved the local auction of the Phoenix Coyotes from Wednesday to Sept. 10.

The question is whether Jerry Reinsdorf's \$148 million bid will still be on the table then.

After Judge Redfield T. Baum postponed the sale date on Monday, NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly worried that Reinsdorf may be wavering in his effort to buy the financially ailing franchise amid repeated challenges by Coyotes owner Jerry Moyes and Canadian billionaire Jim Balsillie, who wants to move the team to Hamilton, Ontario.

Reinsdorf's frustration apparently grew when Moyes' attorneys, in court filings, revealed details of Reinsdorf's negotiations with the city of Glendale on a possible new lease for Jobing.com Arena.

In other NHL news:

■ The agent for Vancouver Canucks forward Alex Burrows says his client is under investigation for an altercation that took place in a summer league hockey game.

Canadian television network RDS reported a complaint was filed July 21, stating Burrows hit goalie Koray Celik in the face with his stick during a game in suburban Kirkland, Quebec.

The game took place in the Pond Hockey League, where pro and university players skate to stay in shape during the off-season. Celik, a 19-year-old goalie from Quebec, plays for the University of Southern Maine.

■ San Jose Sharks forward Jeremy Roenick is expected to announce his retirement Thursday, ending the provocative hockey star's 20-year career.

The Sharks have scheduled a news conference for Thursday in which Roenick will make an announcement about his career. The nine-time All-Star has scored 1,216 points, third-most among American-born players in NHL history.

■ The Detroit Red Wings have signed free agent forward Patrick Eaves to a one-year contract.

The team said Tuesday it would not disclose additional terms.

Eaves is entering his fifth season in the NHL. He had six goals, eight assists and 31 penalty minutes with Carolina last season.

MLS' Wizards name interim coach

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — The Kansas City Wizards on Tuesday named Peter Vermes interim coach for the rest of the season.

President Robb Heineman said Tuesday that Vermes will maintain his role as the team's technical director while serving as coach. He replaces Curt Onalfo, who was fired Monday with the Wizards (5-7-6) stumbling to sixth place in the MLS Eastern Conference.

Vermes retired in 2002 after playing in 184 games, with 11 goals and 17 assists over seven seasons. He played for the then New York/New Jersey MetroStars, Colorado Rapids and the Wizards.

The Wizards also dismissed assistant coach Kris Kelderman.

Army, OU set football series

NORMAN, Okla. — Oklahoma and Army have agreed to play a two-game football series.

The schools said Tuesday they will play in Norman on Sept. 22, 2018, and at West Point, N.Y., on Sept. 26, 2020.

The Sooners and Black Knights haven't played each other since 1961. In 1946, Army beat Oklahoma 21-7, but the Sooners won the other two matchups, 28-20 in 1959 and 14-8 in 1961.

In other college football news:

■ The Western Athletic Conference is reprimanding Hawaii coach Greg McMackin for his derogatory comment while describing Notre Dame's chant before last year's Hawaii Bowl.

The university already has suspended McMackin for 30 days without pay. He's volunteered to take an additional 7 percent pay cut from his \$1.1 million salary.

The coach apologized for using the gay slur during a media briefing last week at the WAC football preview in Salt Lake City.

The WAC said Monday it reprimanded McMackin for violating the conference's sportsmanship code. The league says any further violations will result in a minimum one-game suspension.

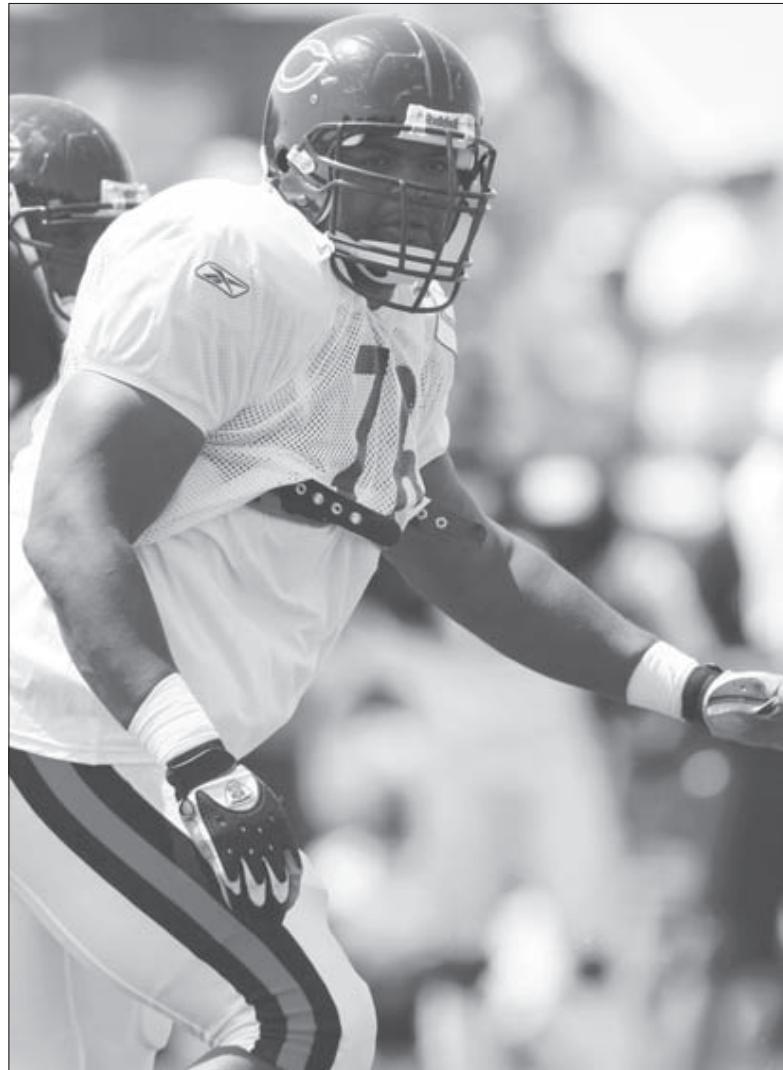
■ Florida State cannot use a law firm as a go-between to keep documents on an academic cheating scandal secret, media lawyers wrote Monday in an appeal to have the papers released publicly.

An appellate court in 1990 ruled against a similar move by St. Petersburg and the Chicago White Sox to hide an agreement for moving the team to Florida, lawyers said in court papers.

The argument is over documents on the school's appeal of an NCAA plan to remove victories from the individual records of coaches and athletes in 10 sports regardless of whether they were involved in the cheating.

The NCAA sent the information electronically to law firm Gray-Robinson rather than to Florida State. The media motion argues they became public records when Gray-Robinson received them on behalf of the school. They also argue the agreement between Florida State and Gray-Robinson to keep them confidential is illegal. Gray-Robinson and the NCAA earlier asked the court to dismiss the lawsuit.

Revived Pace out to regain Pro Bowl form



CHICAGO TRIBUNE, PHIL VELASQUEZ/AP

Chicago Bears offensive lineman Orlando Pace takes part in the team's afternoon work-out Monday in Bourbonnais, Ill. Pace believes he can regain the form that led to seven Pro Bowl selections with the St. Louis Rams before he was limited by injuries in the past three years, and the Bears think he'll help them improve from 26th in offense.

OT content fitting in with Bears

By ANDREW SELIGMAN

The Associated Press

BOURBONNAIS, Ill. — Sometimes, when they're reminiscing about the good old days, Orlando Pace acknowledges he and Olin Kreutz sound like old men.

They share laughs, recall how things were.

"We can almost relate to a lot of stuff," said Pace, the Chicago Bears' new left tackle. "We can talk about back in the day, the way things used to be — the way old men talk about football. So that's kind of exciting. That's almost what we do every day just to get ourselves through camp."

They sound just like old teammates, even though they're new teammates, and Pace is feeling far from old.

At 33, he feels rejuvenated after signing with the Bears and believes he can regain the form that led to seven Pro Bowl selections with St. Louis before being limited by injuries the past three seasons. If that happens, new star quarterback Jay Cutler will be well-protected, as will running back Matt Forte.

Pace, however, sees himself as just another piece on the line, albeit one with an impressive résumé. He blocked for three straight MVPs in St. Louis — quarterback Kurt Warner in 1999 and 2001 and running back Marshall Faulk in 2000 — while making the Pro Bowl from 1999 to 2005. Now, the 6-foot-7, 325-pounder is trying to solidify the Bears' left tackle spot after signing a three-year, \$15-million deal with Chicago in April on the same day it traded for Cutler.

With those two big moves, Chicago made one loud statement: It's serious about contending in the NFC after going 9-7 last season and missing the playoffs for the second straight year.

By adding Cutler and Pace to a mix that already included a six-time Pro Bowl center in Kreutz, along with promising young players such as Forte and tight end Greg Olsen, the Bears believe an offense that ranked 26th will be more productive.

"I think we've upgraded," coach Lovie Smith said.

It would help if the wide receivers, led

by Devin Hester, prove the doubters wrong after struggling last season.

But the quarterback and running backs figure to be protected if a line with potentially three new starters lives up to its billing. Much of that depends on the health of Pace and development of Chris Williams, a first-round pick who was limited by back problems as a rookie last season.

"He's eager to learn; he's ready to learn," Pace said of Williams. "I think he's ready. He wants to be good."

While Pace believes that he can flash his old form as long as he stays healthy, he also sees himself as just an addition, a player trying to fit in. On the Bears' line, Kreutz is the dominant personality, and that's fine with Pace.

"All I do is laugh, because this guy, he keeps it going man," Pace said. "I always enjoy being around him. He always has something to say, as you guys probably know, so he's just fun to be around."

The top draft pick in 1997, when he was the first offensive lineman chosen No. 1 overall in 29 years, Pace spent his first 12 seasons with the Rams. He played in two Super Bowls and helped the 1999 team win the championship while establishing himself as one of the best at his position before the injuries piled up.

Pace missed eight games in 2006 after tearing his left triceps, and 15 games in 2007 with a torn right labrum and rotator cuff. Last year, a sprained knee kept him out of two games, and St. Louis released him after going 2-14.

The veteran had serious discussions with Baltimore, which likely would have moved him to right tackle. Instead, he went to Chicago, where he knew Smith well and got to stay on the left side. Smith was the Rams' defensive coordinator from 2001-03 and served as an assistant at Ohio State when Pace was there.

"I think coming to a new place has provided new excitement," Pace said. "Sometimes when you're in the same place for a while it gets a little boring — not to say St. Louis was that — but just to come to a new place and feel the energy, feel the atmosphere it almost revives me."

49ers' Morgan catching eyes along with passes

The Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Josh Morgan is breaking out from the San Francisco 49ers' logjam at wide receiver.

The second-year player continues to build on his promising rookie season and a standout spring. Now he's challenging not only for a starting position, but also to be the 49ers' No. 1 target.

"That's the kind of goal you set for yourself," Morgan said Monday. "You want to be that No. 1 receiver. When everything is on the line, you want them to go to you and know you are going to make the play. So that's my attitude and how I go about things."

The 49ers haven't had a legitimate No. 1 receiver since Terrell Owens left after the 2003 season. Isaac Bruce has been the closest thing since then, leading the team with 61 receptions for 835 yards and seven touchdowns last year.

Bruce is back with the 49ers this

year for his 16th NFL season and again figures to play a prominent role. But the team is grooming Morgan to make a bigger impact, particularly with first-round draft pick Michael Crabtree unsigned and not yet in camp.

The 49ers took Crabtree 10th overall and spent \$16.6 million to acquire free-agent receiver Brandon Jones during the offseason.

"It might sound weird, but I was happy about us bringing those guys in," Morgan said. "There's a lot of receivers out there now, a lot of talent, and that's only going to make you better, make you elevate your play and make you bring out your best every day."

The 49ers also have veterans Arnaz Battle, Jason Hill and Dominique Zeigler on the roster — that trio combined for 59 receptions last year — giving the 49ers seven legitimate receivers competing in camp.

But Morgan is quickly emerg-

ing as a front-runner. One of the team's stars of spring workouts, Morgan has carried that over to the summer and has been shining on a daily basis in camp.

"For a big-bodied guy his size, for a big receiver, he has excellent explosion," offensive coordinator Jimmy Raye said. "He doesn't look like he would have that kind of explosion, but he's an explosive guy and a great leaper. His circumference range, because of his arms, is very good. He can get to some balls with extension that some guys can't. So his progress has been good and he's doing a good job."

The 219-pound Morgan's combination of size, strength, speed and sticky hands was on display Sunday when he hauled in a deep pass from Alex Smith.

Morgan got behind safety Dashon Goldson, who interfered with him as the ball arrived. But Morgan still was able to make the

grab with one hand, then used his thick legs to break Goldson's tackle attempt and streak away for a touchdown.

It's the kind of thing Morgan has been doing since he arrived in San Francisco last year as an unheralded sixth-round draft choice from Virginia Tech. Morgan broke into the starting lineup during the exhibition season and quickly established himself as a playmaker before a staph infection and groin tear limited his playing time and forced him to miss four games.

Morgan averaged 16.0 yards on his 20 receptions and each of his three touchdown catches went for 30 yards or longer. He recorded several of the team's most spectacular catches.

"I want everybody to say, 'Josh Morgan is our best receiver,'" Morgan said. "I feel I can make a difference and be a big playmaker on this team, and that keeps



San Francisco tight end Vernon Davis, left, talks with wide receiver Josh Morgan, training camp standout, on Monday.

me hungry. The sky's the limit, and I'm not going to be satisfied until I reach my potential."

NFL briefs

Bills RB Lynch loses appeal

The Associated Press

PITTSFORD, N.Y. — Buffalo's running game will have to survive three games without its star, but the Bills aren't worried about their interim starters.

Marshawn Lynch lost his appeal of his three-game suspension Monday, as NFL commissioner Roger Goodell deemed the punishment fair for Lynch pleading guilty to a misdemeanor gun charge in California during the offseason.

Lynch's suspension begins on Sept. 5 and ends on Sept. 28, a day after the Bills play the New Orleans Saints in their third regular-season game.

But just because the Bills won't have the Pro Bowl back who describes his punishing style as "Beast Mode," don't expect them to go into panic mode.

To carry the running game in Lynch's absence, Buffalo will count on two versatile veteran backs — Fred Jackson and newly acquired Dominic Rhodes.

Jackson filled in admirably for Lynch the past two seasons, twice rushing for more than 100 yards in a game, including last year's finale when he gained 136 yards on 27 carries vs. New England.

Rhodes, like Jackson, is coming off an impressive season in which he rushed for 538 yards, caught 45 passes for 302 yards and scored nine touchdowns.

Barring injury, Jackson is scheduled to start the season opener against the Patriots in New England on Sept. 14. But Rhodes also is expected to see plenty of action.

"Just the way the reps are going, I would say that I'm the guy right now, but he's definitely going to get his opportunities, too," Jackson said. "It's going to be a running back by committee thing right now. We're both just holding it down to make sure we get through those games and get [Lynch] back. Then, we'll see how things go from there."

Patriots sign QB Walter

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. — The New England Patriots signed quarterback Andrew Walter and released quarterback Matt Gutierrez.

The 6-foot-6, 230-pound Walter, who was waived by the Raiders,

ers on Thursday, spent the past four seasons with Oakland after being selected in the third round of the 2005 draft out of Arizona State. He has played in 15 games, starting nine, and completed 174 of 333 passes for 1,919 yards and three touchdowns.

Eagles won't comment on severity of Bradley injury

BETHLEHEM, Pa. — Upset by press reports that starting middle linebacker Stewart Bradley could miss the season with a knee injury, Eagles coach Andy Reid said Monday he's not talking about it.

The Eagles confirmed Sunday that Bradley suffered a knee injury in practice. On Monday, reports surfaced that the third-year pro has a torn ACL and is likely lost for the season.

After practice, Reid criticized the media instead of discussing the injury. He said some reporters violated his "pact" with them, which Reid said dictates that reporters ask only him about injuries, not players or other personnel.

Later Monday, wide receiver Jeremy Maclin and the team agreed to terms on a five-year contract, ending the first-round pick's holdout.

Financial terms weren't released.

Elsewhere:

- Robert Ayers signed a five-year deal Monday, showing up for Denver Broncos training camp a week after other rookies reported.

With Ayers on board, that leaves tailback Knowshon Moreno, the team's top pick, as the only unsigned player.

- Cincinnati Bengals tight end Reggie Kelly ruptured his Achilles' tendon.

Kelly hurt his left leg during a morning practice and will have surgery on Wednesday. He is expected to be sidelined for at least six months.

- Maake Kemoeatu tore his right Achilles' tendon, leaving the Carolina Panthers in disarray at the position where they entered with the least depth.

The mammoth defensive tackle's Achilles' tendon snapped while he was running in a non-contact position drill.

- The Packers aren't ruling

out Michael Vick.

Asked whether Green Bay might be interested in the scandal-tainted quarterback, general manager Ted Thompson didn't rule it out Tuesday.

But that doesn't necessarily mean the Packers are in hot pursuit of Vick. Thompson is notoriously coy about the team's plans, so it wasn't immediately clear whether his comments indicated a sincere level of interest.

- Pro Bowl receiver Roddy White is working out with former UAB teammates in Birmingham, Ala., while holding out for a new contract with the Atlanta Falcons.

- The San Diego Chargers have fined Antonio Cromartie \$2,500 for using Twitter to complain about the food at training camp.

The offending tweet apparently equated the food quality with the Chargers' failure to reach the Super Bowl in recent seasons.

- The Arizona Cardinals have signed center Melvin Fowler to a one-year contract and placed fullback Justin Green on injured reserve with a knee injury.

Fowler, in his eighth NFL season, played the last three years with Buffalo after signing as a free agent. He started all 16 games for the Bills in 2006 and 2007. Last season, he played in 14 games, five as a starter.

Green, out of football last season after being released by Baltimore, is out for the season with a partially torn knee ligament. Coach Ken Whisenhunt says several fullbacks will be tried out to fill Green's roster spot.

- Baltimore Ravens offensive tackle Adam Terry will be placed on injured reserve due to chronic problems with his right knee that will require further surgery.

The former second-round draft pick had arthroscopic knee surgery during the offseason and hadn't been practicing at training camp after being placed on the physically unable to perform list.

- The Kansas City Chiefs have signed veteran Amani Toomer to a one-year deal, adding experience to a young receiving corps.

Toomer, wearing a No. 13 jersey, joined the Chiefs for practice Tuesday afternoon, a day after working out for the coaches.

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KEVIN RIVOLI/AP

Jets players scuffle during training camp in Cortland, N.Y., on Monday. Punches were thrown while tempers flared at practice, and coach Rex Ryan couldn't have been more pleased. The fighting between the offensive and defensive units went three rounds.

Practice fights elicit smile from Jets coach

BY DENNIS WASZAK JR.

The Associated Press

CORTLAND, N.Y. — Ding! Ding! Ding!

Punches were thrown while tempers flared during a rough and tumble practice at New York Jets training camp Monday. And coach Rex Ryan couldn't have been more pleased.

"Hey, we had a little Rock 'Em, Sock 'Em Robots out there," Ryan said with a grin.

Thomas Jones took a swing at James Ihedigbo and a few Jets players quickly jumped in to break things up early in the practice session.

Round 2 came a few minutes later when Howard Green got into it with Brock Christopher, and several players stood around the skirmish and shouted at each other.

Then came Ahmad Carroll and Nevin McCaskill getting into a shoving match, and Darrelle Revis playfully jumping on the pile.

All that was missing was a ring and an announcer.

"That was interesting," Ryan said. "It always happens in camp this time of year. You've been through a few days and you're tired of getting hit and you're tired of doing all this kind of stuff."

Truth is, the players loved it, as did the fans watching in the stands at SUNY Cortland. Ryan promised to establish an aggressive, tough and mean attitude — and the team is quickly taking to that.

"It's good," Ihedigbo said. "If this is how you go against your teammates, OK, well, let's see

how you go against your opponents. It's going to be that much more of an edge and that much more of a chip on your shoulder."

Surprisingly, there appeared to be no hard feelings after practice.

"It lightened things up," quarterback Kellen Clemens said. "We'll all go in the locker room and there won't be a word said about the fights in a bad way. Guys will be joking around about it."

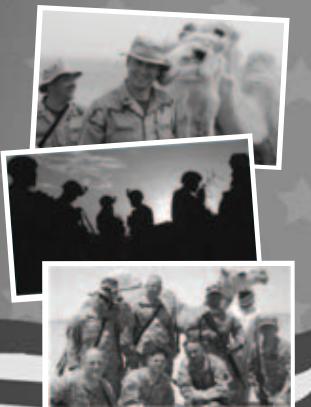
Added defensive end Jamaal Westerman: "We're still teammates off the field. On the field, it's offense vs. defense. In the locker room, we're all Jets."

It's not exactly the rigid, no-nonsense camp Eric Mangini ran the last three seasons.

"I just think people are little bit more relaxed, a lot more relaxed," guard Brandon Moore said. "Guys are out playing football, having fun and feel like they can say what they want to say and do what they want to do, within the rules. You don't feel like someone's hovering over you and everybody's kind of tiptoeing around."

Obviously, Ryan doesn't want his players brawling on a regular basis.

"I let them know after practice that I don't need them to fight," Ryan said. "I don't need them to fight each other, I really don't. Things like this happen, but I sense that there's a lot of pride in the particular units. ... We want to be physical and we want to play tough, hard-nosed football and I think we're working to that."



PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION: AUG. 8

'Mr. McDaniel' to take place at head of class

Former Vikings standout still prefers the background in new job at school

BY DAVE CAMPBELL
The Associated Press

Randall McDaniel still looks as if he could lower his 6-foot-4, 275-pound frame into that strange, off-balance stance and line up at left guard, poised to plow into the guy on the other side.

He has other work to do, though.

Fitting with his preference to be in the background during a 14-year NFL career along the relative anonymity of the offensive line, he's now a full-time basic skills instructor at an elementary school in a Minneapolis suburb spending his time with second-graders born far too late to have seen his success with the Minnesota Vikings.

In the classroom, he's known simply as Mr. McDaniel.

"It's the hardest job you'll ever love," said McDaniel, one of this year's Pro Football Hall of Fame inductees.

He's teaching instead of blocking, but it's again impossible for him to avoid the attention and the praise.

After a league-record 12 straight trips to the Pro Bowl and seven times as an Associated Press first team All-Pro, McDaniel is bound this weekend for Canton, Ohio, to join the game's greats.

Despite the age of his students, well, it was inevitable the full story would emerge.

"A lot of the kids figured out I used to play football," McDaniel said in a recent interview with The AP. "Once the Hall of Fame announcement came out, they were all like, 'Wow, you were really good!'"

Yes, indeed. He was durable, for one. McDaniel and another Hall of Fame guard, Bruce Matthews, are the only two NFL players who appeared in every game during the 1990s.



THE STAR TRIBUNE, ELIZABETH FLORES/AP

Former Minnesota Vikings lineman Randall McDaniel works with a second grade reading group at Neill Elementary in Crystal, Minn., in 2006. Education has always played a prominent role for McDaniel, who invited his former high school athletic director and assistant principal to introduce him at his induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Saturday in Canton, Ohio.

He was athletic, taking part in baseball, basketball and track as a kid and arriving at Arizona State as a tight end, before blossoming into a guard who was so quick he sometimes outpaced the running back he was pulling for downfield. The Vikings chose him with the 19th pick in the first round in 1988.

McDaniel owned a special mix of power and intelligence, too, as opponents could attest over 12 seasons with the Vikings and two with Tampa Bay.

"He'd block the mess out of you," said motormouth former Buccaneers defensive tackle Warren Sapp, who faced McDaniel many times but never was able to distract him with his infamous trash talk.

"I would either drag you into talking with me or I would make you hate me talking at you so much that I knew it bothered you. I couldn't do that to him. He wouldn't talk and wouldn't let me know that it was bothering him. He'd just keep playing, keep

blocking."

The lasting image of McDaniel's career is that awkward stance, a technique no sane coach would ever endorse.

Here's how it started: Teammate Todd Kalis accidentally rolled into McDaniel's knee early in his second season with Minnesota, and he was supposed to be out for a month.

Well, McDaniel's replacement was struggling during a game two weeks later, and offensive line coach John Michels screamed at him to take his place. Wearing a bulky brace, McDaniel couldn't get his leg to bend the way he needed to set up in his stance.

So he improvised, turning his left leg out and laying it straight and as low as he could with his ankle essentially flat against the turf.

"I thought I was just going to try it for that game," McDaniel recalled, "but then the defensive linemen made a comment to me: 'I have no clue what you're doing.'

I can't tell if you're pulling, passing or coming at me.' I thought, 'Heck, I'm never getting out of this.' It never stopped me from doing what I needed to do."

Matt Birk, now a six-time Pro Bowl center with the Baltimore Ravens, learned a lot from McDaniel during his first two years with the Vikings — including some stern advice.

"One day I was screwing around and imitating his stance," Birk said. "He said, 'Don't you ever try to do that again, because you can never do what I do.' So I never tried that again."

Rebuke aside, Birk appreciated McDaniel's willingness to welcome him and treat a rookie with respect.

"He was a great player, and that wasn't by accident. Off the field, he was just a great guy," Birk said.

The value McDaniel has long had for education will be evident during this weekend's induction ceremony: He invited O.K. Ful-

ton, his former athletic director and assistant principal from Agua Fria Union High School in the Phoenix area, to introduce him.

Whether it's helping kids at Hilltop Primary School or organizing community-service outings for area middle-schoolers with his wife, Marianne, McDaniel is just as busy as he was as a player.

"I was always one of those people that led by example. The best way to show people how to do things is to get out there and do it yourself," said McDaniel, who's now 44.

Simone Reed struggled with reading in third grade, when McDaniel worked in her classroom. He gave her a math tip, too: Eight times eight equals 64, his old uniform number.

"He was always willing to give you a hand to do whatever you wanted to do. He just wanted to help you, even though he was a football star," said Reed, who — 10 years later — is headed to Southern Illinois University to study film.

Nancy Benz, the principal at Hilltop, first invited McDaniel to volunteer with one of her classes at a previous school more than a decade ago. When he retired in 2002, he received a provisional teaching certificate and two years later was working full time.

"He just kind of adopted the cause," Benz said. "He's had a really positive influence on the kids. It's been fun to watch him."

The Vikings enjoyed watching him, too. He took over as their starter in the second game of his first season and became an anchor of one of the NFL's best offenses while playing the game within a game that exists at the line.

"The competition, I loved it," he said. "The offensive line, I loved that unit, playing as one. We were like brothers in there."

AP Sports Writer Fred Goodall in Tampa, Fla., contributed to this report.

Chief: Thomas was cornerstone of K.C.'s rebuilding effort

CHIEF, FROM BACK PAGE

He was dead at 33. On Saturday, Thomas, one of greatest pass rushers in NFL history, will enter the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio.

Thomas was the first player drafted when general manager Carl Peterson and Schottenheimer took over the Chiefs in 1989. He provided the foundation for one of the league's great rebuilding jobs. The Chiefs had become NFL weaklings and there was even talk of the franchise leaving town before he arrived from Alabama as the overall No. 4 draft choice.

After an impressive perfor-

mance during a preseason game his rookie year, a reporter remarked that Kansas City hadn't had an outside pass rush in about 15 years.

"Well, they've got one now," he said, flashing what would become his trademark grin.

And how.

Quick and powerful and blessed with a rare ability to maintain his balance while keeping his hips low to the ground and pivoting around blockers, Thomas — No. 58 — was the most productive passer-smasher of the 1990s.

His 116½ sacks from 1990-99 led the NFL. His 126½ career sacks are a Chiefs record. One day in 1990 in a loss to Seattle, he

sacked Dave Krieg seven times. Nineteen years later, it still stands as a game record.

"Derrick weighed 250-255 and we designed what we did to try to put him in a position to do what he did best," Schottenheimer said. "That was to go after the quarterback. You don't see many quarterbacks throwing effectively when they're looking over their back shoulder and wondering, 'Who's that guy coming at me?'"

Anchored by a tremendous defense, the Chiefs became the dominant team of the AFC West and trailed only the Bills and 49ers in total victories for the entire decade.

"Any time you can get a player,

on offense or defense, who must become the focal point of the opponent, those kind of players are rare," Schottenheimer said. "He had to be accounted for on every play or he would beat you."

The son of an Air Force pilot who died in Vietnam during Operation Linebacker II, Thomas was usually at his best when military jets made pregame flyovers. It was Veterans Day that he had the seven sacks against Seattle.

"I always think of my dad when I see the military planes," he once said. "It makes me feel sad that I had to grow up without him. But I guess it also gets my adrenaline going. I dedicate the game to him and I want to do my best for

him."

While his sack totals are a part of the record, the number of lives he helped save can never be known.

After the accident, a Missouri highway patrolman said he noticed that more drivers were wearing seat belts. His mother established MomstoMoms58, which sought to educate the public about seat belt safety. The lesson was not lost on Schottenheimer.

"I never wore a seat belt," he said. "I always said cynically that I didn't want to be trapped in the wreckage. But from that day on, I have used a seat belt without fail."

Pierce: No regrets for acting 'reasonably, responsibly'

BY TOM CANAVAN
The Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. — New York Giants linebacker Antonio Pierce has no regrets about helping Plaxico Burress after his former teammate accidentally shot himself in the leg last November.

Speaking a day after a Manhattan grand jury decided not to indict him on charges of carrying Burress' unlicensed firearm in the aftermath of the nightclub shooting, Pierce said Tuesday he acted reasonably, responsibly and instinctively in coming to the aid of a wounded teammate.

Pierce, who has been silent about the shooting for the past nine months, declined to discuss any details of the incident in an interview that lasted a little more than three minutes at the Giants training camp at the University at Albany.

"I am not sorry for how I acted that night. I am not sorry for how I responded," Pierce said of the Nov. 29 shooting at the Latin Quarter nightclub, about 36 hours before the Giants had a game against the Washington Redskins. "I am sorry for putting myself in position that I had to respond the way I had to respond. There [are] a lot of lessons I learned from

this. I take them to heart and I take them seriously, obviously. It has been a lot of ups and downs."

The grandjury indicted Burress on two counts of criminal possession of a weapon and one count of reckless endangerment.

Pierce said the last nine months have been trying and that he was extremely relieved when the grand jury returned no true bill against him.

While he never showed any emotion, fellow linebacker Danny Clark shed a little light on how Pierce felt. He was with his training camp roommate when Pierce learned about the grand jury's decision, and he saw his reaction.

"Like a 10-ton brick was lifted off his back," Clark said. "We were optimistic that he was going to come out of it clean and he did, so I am happy about that."

The only trace of emotion Pierce seemed to have was a hint of bitterness toward Robert Morgenthau when he was asked whether he was surprised that the Manhattan district attorney pressed for charges against him in recent weeks.

"I leave that between me and the D.A.," Pierce said.

Pierce was glad that the grand jury heard the facts "from his

lips" when he testified last Thursday and Friday.

"I thought I acted very reasonably and responsibly and instinctively to a teammate that was in need, and that was my concern that night, to get him help," Pierce said.

Pierce thought he conveyed that to the grand jury.

"When I was there for that long, I was sure they were listening very well because I was there for a long period of time," Pierce said. "You know what, I just let the action take course. The people of New York obviously heard what I had to say. They heard all the witnesses and from everyone involved in that night and they made a decision."

While he wasn't overly pressed, Pierce twice refused to give details about the incident.

"I am tired of seeing myself on the TV and hearing my name on the TV," Pierce said. "It is time to talk about the New York Giants and the 2009 season. Anything that happened in 2008 is irrelevant at this point. I don't have nothing to say about that incident and that season because I have to move forward like our team does and that's what I plan on doing."

Pierce thanked his teammates

and the Giants organization for its support.

"It's a lot easier when you are on that green field with the boys," he said. "Obviously, coming back up to Albany and getting ready for the 2009 season, that's what I have been looking forward to and that's what they have been looking forward to."

Players said word of the grand jury's decision on Monday spread by word of mouth.

Defensive end Osi Umenyiora said that none of the players felt Pierce would go to jail. However, the decision removed a major distraction and ensured that the Giants would have their starting

middle linebacker available.

"I think he did what any one of us would have done," Umenyiora said. "I don't think he did anything wrong in any sense of the word."

Pierce faced possible charges of carrying Burress' unlicensed firearm after the shooting because he took the gun used in the incident back to his home in New Jersey and later arranged to have it taken to Burress' home. Pierce also drove Burress to a hospital, where the receiver was treated under an assumed name.

The Giants released Burress in April and he has yet to sign with another team.

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NASCAR notebook

Even engine problems can't keep Johnson down for long

BY DAN GELSTON
The Associated Press

LONG POND, Pa. — Maybe Jimmie Johnson can ask President Barack Obama if the early mechanical issues in the No. 48 would have made him eligible for the "cash for clunkers" program when they meet next month.

The way Johnson bounced back from three laps down to finish 13th at Pocono Raceway showed why he's a three-time champion and was invited to the White House in the first place. Johnson was set to meet with Obama on Monday for a celebration of last year's title, but Sunday's rainout moved the ceremony to Aug. 19.

Johnson surely wished he was at Pennsylvania Avenue instead of in the Pennsylvania 500 when his car was wracked with problems near the halfway point. Engine problems forced unscheduled pit stops and the hood was repeatedly up with every stop.

NASCAR warned Johnson at one point that he'd be black-flagged if he failed to pick up his speed.

Crew chief Chad Knaus identified the problem and ordered new spark plugs and a carburetor that salvaged Johnson's finish.

"I assume it was a spark plug issue. That's the last thing we started changing," Johnson said. "The car started running better so it's just crazy how sometimes a little part like that can go wrong."

I know our guys will look closely at it to make sure that something like that doesn't happen again."

Johnson is a lock to make the Chase for the championship field and lost only minimal ground behind points leader Tony Stewart. Stewart leads by 197 points.

"There's a lot to be proud of," Johnson said. "What I was hoping to see from the No. 48 team is coming around right now. This is what we need going into the Chase."

Johnson, who won last week at Indianapolis Motor Speedway, had a string of five straight top 10s end. He has three victories this season and has again strongly positioned himself to win the Sprint Cup championship.

"I think we are going in the right direction and it shows to me what my team is capable of, and I know what I'm capable of going into the Chase," he said.

Stewart's day: Stewart duplicated June's Pocono effort in every way except taking the checkered flag.

Starting from the rear of the field, Stewart made an unexpected pit stop to check on the tires only 12 laps into the race. He fell a lap down at Pocono Raceway and struggled most of the race before rebounding for a solid 10th-place finish.

"I finish in the top 10 or I have a bad day," Hornish said. "We need to get a little bit of that middle ground. We took what we had today and got a little bit more out of it than what the car was worth, so that's always good."

This weekend started off just like it did in June. Stewart was automatically awarded the pole because rain washed out qualifying, then he wrecked the next day

in practice and was forced to the rear of the field. Stewart picked off 42 drivers in June to win a race for the first time as owner/driver. He never threatened in the Pennsylvania 500.

"We made the best of a bad situation that put us in Saturday morning," Stewart said.

Stewart credited crew chief Darian Grubb for keeping him calm and focused on making up lost ground.

"Darian never gets wound up and it keeps me from getting wound up," Stewart said. "He just helps you through it. It's easy to get down, but he is just calm and keeps you pumped. You realize you have a long day ahead of you and you will get it better as the day goes."

Hot Hornish: No, that wasn't an old IndyCar race on a classic sports channel. It really was Sam Hornish Jr. racing hard down the stretch and competing for a victory. The former Indianapolis 500 winner was fourth for his best career finish in two full years of Cup racing.

"I finish in the top 10 or I have a bad day," Hornish said. "We need to get a little bit of that middle ground. We took what we had today and got a little bit more out of it than what the car was worth, so that's always good."

It was the first top-five for Hornish in 57 career starts. His previous best was sixth earlier this year at Richmond and he is 27th in points.

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East Division				W	L	Pct	GB
New York	63	42	.560	—			
Boston	62	42	.556	½			
Tampa Bay	58	48	.547	5½			
Toronto	51	54	.486	12			
Baltimore	44	61	.419	11½			
Central Division							
Detroit	55	49	.529	—			
Chicago	54	52	.509	2			
Minnesota	52	53	.495	3½			
Cleveland	44	61	.419	11½			
Kansas City	41	64	.390	14½			
West Division							
Los Angeles	53	40	.612	—			
Texas	59	45	.567	4½			
Seattle	54	51	.514	10			
Oakland	45	60	.429	19			

Sunday's games

Cleveland 11, Detroit 1
Boston 18, Baltimore 10
Kansas City 4, Tampa Bay 1
N.Y. Yankees 8, Chicago White Sox 5
L.A. Angels 13, Minnesota 4
Toronto 7, Oakland 2
Texas 4, Seattle 2

Monday's games

Tampa Bay 10, Kansas City 4
Detroit 6, Baltimore 5
Oakland 3, Texas 2

Tuesday's games

Baltimore at Detroit
Minnesota at Cleveland
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto
Boston at Tampa Bay
Seattle at Kansas City

L.A. Angels at Chicago White Sox
Texas at Oakland

Wednesday's games

Baltimore (Guthrie 7-10) at Detroit
(E.Jackson 7-5)
Minnesota (Liriano 4-10) at Cleveland
(Laffey 4-3)
N.Y. Yankees (Mitre 1-0) at Toronto
(Rzepczynski 1-2)
Boston (Penny 7-5) at Tampa Bay
(Price 4-4)
Seattle (French 1-2) at Kansas City
(Davies 3-7)
L.A. Angels (E.Santana 3-6) at Chicago
White Sox (G.Floyd 8-6)
Texas (Padilla 8-5) at Oakland (Braden
8-9)

Thursday's games

Minnesota at Cleveland
Baltimore at Detroit
L.A. Angels at Chicago White Sox
Texas at Oakland
Boston at N.Y. Yankees
Seattle at Kansas City

Monday**Rays 10, Royals 4**

Kansas City				Tampa Bay			
ab	r	h	bi	ab	r	h	bi
DeJesus ss	4	0	2	0	2	0	0
B.Pena ph	0	0	0	0	1	1	1
Blmgsf ct	5	0	1	0	0	0	0
Butler lb	3	0	1	1	1	0	0
Teahan 3b	3	2	1	0	1	0	0
Callasp 2b	4	0	1	0	1	0	0
J.Buck dh	4	0	1	1	1	0	0
Olivio c	4	0	2	1	1	0	0
Freel rf	3	1	0	0	1	0	0
YBtncr ss	4	1	2	1	1	0	0
Totals	34	10	4	4	10	3	10
Kansas City	010	001	101	4	220	110	40x-10
Tampa Bay	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

E—Callaspo (15), DP—Kansas City 1, Tampa Bay 2. LOB—Kansas City 7, Tampa Bay 9. 2B—Teahan (26), J.Buck (6), Bartlett (22), Crawford (17), Gross (13). 3B—Bartlett (5), M.Hernandez (1). HR—Y.Bentancourt (3), W.Ayarba (2) (10). SB—Crawford (49). SF—Butler.

IP H R ER BB SO

IP H R ER BB SO

NL roundup

Wells helps lift Cubs back atop NL Central

The Associated Press

CINCINNATI — The hottest team since the All-Star Game is back in first place — barely — thanks to a rookie who keeps telling himself not to get caught up in the moment.

The Chicago Cubs really needed Randy Wells to keep a level head.

The 26-year-old rookie took a shutout into the eighth inning Monday night and wound up winning his fourth straight start, 4-2 over the Cincinnati Reds. Mike Fontenot's three-run homer off struggling Aaron Harang kept the Cubs rolling.

Dubbed underachievers for most of the first half, the Cubs have gone 13-5 since the All-Star break, best in the majors. They were 4½ games out on July 10. The latest win moved them back into first place in the NL Central for the third time in the last nine days, a percentage point ahead of St. Louis.

The challenge now is to stay there awhile.

"We're right there in the standings," Fontenot said. "Hopefully we'll keep winning ballgames, and all of us can get hot the last couple of months, and we'll see what happens."

Wells (8-4) has been a big part of the turnaround. The right-hander was called up on May 8 and has been one of the league's top newcomers. He allowed six hits, including Alex Gonzalez's solo homer with one out in the eighth, while getting his fourth straight victory.

"He's pitched exceedingly well," manager Lou Piniella said. "What a nice job, huh? Where would we be without this young man?"

As the wins pile up, Wells tells himself not to get caught up in the success.



LENNY IGNELZI/AP

Atlanta Braves third baseman Chipper Jones misses the tag as the San Diego Padres' Everth Cabrera steals third in the seventh inning Monday in San Diego. Cabrera reached base on an infield hit, stole second, stole third, and scored moments later on a bloop hit by Oscar Salazar. Umpire Angel Campos stands in background.

"Remember where you came from," Wells said. "Remember where you were a few months ago. Don't try to throw shutouts. Don't try to win Rookie of the Year."

Fontenot homered in the second inning off Harang (5-13), who leads the majors in losses. Harang hasn't won since May 25, going 0-9 in his last 13 starts. It's the deepest slump of his career and the longest losing streak by a Reds pitcher since Danny Graves lost 10 straight between the 2003 and 2004.

"We need a victory, but if anybody needs a win, it's him," manager Dusty Baker said.

Heading into the series, Piniella had one concern. Closer Kevin Gregg blew both of his save chances in Florida over the weekend and reported that his pitching arm felt tired. Piniella wanted to give him a couple of days off to recharge.

Carlos Marmol gave up a run-scoring double by Gonzalez

with two outs in the ninth, leaving runners at second and third. He retired Willy Taveras on a grounder, earning his fourth save in eight chances.

While the Cubs have made a U-turn at midseason, the Reds have gone the other way. They have dropped 13 of 14 and 19 of 23, consigning them to a share of last place in the NL Central with Pittsburgh.

Brewers 6, Dodgers 5: Ryan Braun had a three-run homer among his four hits, and Milwaukee closer Trevor Hoffman retired Manny Ramirez on a bases-loaded fly to right to finish a victory over host Los Angeles.

Manny Parra pitched eight outstanding innings, but Milwaukee nearly blew a four-run lead after he gave up two hits to open the ninth. James Loney hit Hoffman's first pitch for a two-run double, and Orlando Hudson drove him home to cut Milwaukee's lead to one.

After the Dodgers loaded the bases on a swinging bunt and a hit batter, Ramirez could only manage the fly ball, keeping him without an RBI in 10 straight games.

Hoffman earned his 24th save despite giving up three hits and a run for the Brewers.

Clayton Kershaw (8-6) hadn't lost since June 10 but he issued a season-high six walks, including four straight in the fourth to bring in two of his three runs allowed.

Padres 4, Braves 2: At San Diego, Mat Latos pitched seven strong innings and fellow rookie Will Venable drove in the go-ahead run and made a run-saving catch for San Diego.

Latos (3-1) settled down after allowing a run in each of the first two innings. He retired 15 of 16 batters in one stretch and got a huge lift when Venable saved at least one run in the seventh with a diving catch in right field to end the inning.

Heath Bell pitched a perfect ninth for his 27th save and San Diego won for the sixth time in seven games.

Kenshin Kawakami (5-9) allowed three runs and eight hits in six innings as he lost for the third time in four starts.

Astros 4, Giants 3: Geoff Blum and Kaz Matsui homered off Matt Cain and host Houston snapped the San Francisco ace's six-start unbeaten streak.

Blum led off the fifth with a homer, the first earned run allowed by Cain in 14 innings. That cut the Giants' lead to 2-1 and Matsui put Houston on top in the sixth with a two-run shot off the right-field foul pole.

Cain (12-3) also gave up Carlos Lee's RBI single in the eighth.

Mike Hampton (7-8) gave up eight hits, only one after the Giants took a 2-0 lead in the third.

He struck out six and won for just the third time in eight starts.

Jose Valverde gave up an RBI double to Pablo Sandoval with two outs in the ninth, but earned his 13th save.

Diamondbacks 6, Mets 5: At New York, Mark Reynolds hit two home runs, powering Dan Haren and Arizona.

Reynolds and Miguel Montero capped Arizona's three-run first with only the second set of back-to-back homers at the new Citi Field. Reynolds added a two-run shot off Nelson Figueroa (1-1) in the second.

Gerardo Parra had three hits and drove in a run for the Diamondbacks, who nearly blew a six-run lead. Haren (11-6) allowed five runs and eight hits over seven innings, and is 7-2 with a 2.44 ERA in his last 10 starts.

Daniel Murphy homered and Luis Castillo drove in two runs for New York.

Reynolds has seven home runs in his last seven games and is batting .387 (24-for-62) with eight homers since the All-Star break.

Nationals 8, Pirates 4: Adam Dunn and Ryan Zimmerman homered and Washington rallied from a three-run deficit.

Cristian Guzman had two hits and two RBIs and Tyler Clippard (2-1) earned the win with three hitless innings of relief for visiting Washington, which won the last two games to split the four-game series between the last-place teams.

Andrew McCutchen homered for the fourth time in three games and Ryan Doumit went 3-for-5 for the Pirates, who have lost seven of nine.

Mike MacDougal earned his eighth save by getting Delwyn Young, the only batter he faced, to ground out with two runners on.

AL roundup

Tigers' Thomas clinches win with homer

The Associated Press

DETROIT — Clete Thomas didn't know how to react after hitting his first game-winning homer.

Thomas homered with two outs in the ninth inning to lift the Detroit Tigers to a 6-5 victory over the Baltimore Orioles on Monday night.

He hit a 1-2 fastball from Danys Baez (4-5) into the shrubs above the center field fence.

"I've never hit a walk-off homer before — not at any level," he said. "When I was rounding first and realized it had gone out, I didn't know how to react. It feels better than you even think it will — and that's something you always dream of doing."

The homer completed a rally from a 5-0 deficit. Justin Verlander allowed five runs before getting his second out, but didn't give up another in his eight innings of work.

"This is one of my favorite starts of my career," Verlander said. "In the past, I would have fallen apart — when I struggled in the first, I would never make it out of the fourth. Tonight, I went eight and kept us in the game."

"To pitch the way he did after that first in-

ning — that just shows that he's one of the best pitchers in baseball," Tigers manager Jim Leyland said.

Fernando Rodney (2-2) pitched a scoreless ninth.

Orioles rookie Chris Tillman gave up five runs in six innings in his second career start.

Brian Roberts led off against Verlander with a homer, and the next three batters singled to load the bases.

Aubrey Huff made it 2-0 by grounding into a force at second before Ty Wigginton doubled in the third run and Luke Scott added a two-run double.

"After that, he was a completely different pitcher," Huff said.

Rays 10, Royals 4: Carl Crawford had three hits and three RBIs for host Tampa Bay.

Crawford, who stole his league-leading 49th base, went 3-for-3 against Kansas City starter Zack Greinke (10-7) after having just one hit in 16 previous at-bats against him.

Willy Aybar hit solo homers from both sides of the plate for the Rays, who won nine of 10 games in the season series with Kansas City. Aybar homered left-handed off Greinke in the

fifth and went deep from the right side against Ron Mahay two innings later.

Greinke allowed six runs and 10 hits over five innings, and is 0-4 in six starts since his last win on June 28.

Athletics 3, Rangers 2: Pinch-hitter Rajai Davis tripled down the right field line to drive in two runs in the bottom of the ninth inning and lift host Oakland over Texas.

C.J. Wilson (4-5) blew his third save in 16 chances after allowing singles to Jack Cust, Tommy Everidge and Mark Ellis, before Davis' triple.

Mike Wuetz (6-1) pitched 1⅓ innings.

Marlon Byrd drove in a run and Hank Blalock scored the game's first run on a double play for the Rangers.

A's starter Brett Anderson gave up six hits over 7⅔ innings with eight strikeouts and three walks.

Neftali Feliz, one of the Rangers' top pitching prospects, made an impressive major league debut by striking out the side in the top of the sixth in relief of starter Dustin Nippert. He retired all six hitters he faced.



DUANE BURLESON/AP

The Detroit Tigers' Clete Thomas watches his game-winning home run against the Baltimore Orioles in the bottom of the ninth inning Monday in Detroit. The Tigers won 6-5.

SPORTS



Bills running back Lynch loses appeal of three-game suspension, Page 27

PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME INDUCTION: AUG. 8

Hail to the Chief



Derrick Thomas left lasting legacy despite tragically shortened career

By DOUG TUCKER
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. Marty Schottenheimer was walking up the 16th fairway near his Florida home when he noticed a golf cart hurrying toward him. It was someone from the golf shop.

"He told me, 'Coach, you need to call your wife,'" Schottenheimer said.

Pat Schottenheimer's voice was urgent.

"She said, 'Marty, they called from Kansas City to say that Derrick has been in a serious accident,'" he said.

She was talking about Derrick Thomas — a great young linebacker with a light-up-the-room smile, an All-Pro who turned the Chiefs back into winners. Thomas was unstoppable. Thomas was indestructible.

How could he be lying on a highway somewhere, broken, helpless, scared?

"I broke down in tears," Schot-

■ After years of schooling defensive linemen, '09 inductee Randall McDaniel focused on different type of education. Page 28

tenheimer said. "I couldn't believe it. It was just horrible."

Typically running late, Thomas was headed for the airport to catch a flight to St. Louis and watch the NFC championship game on Jan. 23, 2000. Police reports said he was speeding and weaving in and out of traffic when the SUV he was driving flipped and rolled on the snowy highway,

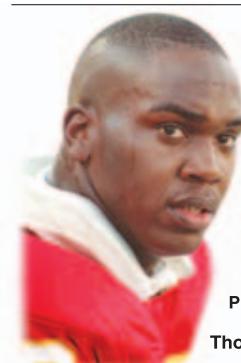
One passenger who was wearing his seat belt walked away. One who was not died instantly. Thomas, his seat belt unfastened, was hurled violently to the pavement.

At first there was hope he might live. But in a Miami hospital 16 days later, paralyzed from the chest down, he said, "Mom, I don't feel good," and died of a pulmonary embolism.

SEE CHIEF ON PAGE 28

Thomas enters Hall

Derrick Thomas, one of the greatest pass rushers in NFL history, will enter the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Saturday.



SACKS	1989	10.0
Between	1990	20.0*
1990 and	1991	13.5
1999, his	1992	14.5
116 1/2	1993	8.0
sacks led	1994	11.0
the NFL.	1995	8.0
Pro Bowls: 9	1996	13.0
Thomas	1997	9.5
	1998	12.0
	1999	7.0

*NFL leader
Career sacks 126 1/2

SOURCE: National Football League

Kansas City Chiefs linebacker Derrick Thomas, the NFL's most productive pass rusher in the 1990s, died at 33 of a pulmonary embolism after being paralyzed in a car accident in 2000.

AP

Pitcher convicted of assaulting fan with ball Page 25

